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THESIS

OPTIMAL ESTIMATION OF TARGET IN CLUTTER
(CHAFF) FROM RADAR

by

Akylas Dim. Katsicogiannis

December 1985

Thesis Advisor:

H. A. Titus

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Optimal Estimation of Target in Clutter (Chaff)
from Radar

by

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Lieutenant, Hellenic Navy
B.S., Greek Naval Academy, 1976

Submitted in partial fulfillment of the
requirements for the degree of

MASTER OF SCIENCE IN ELECTRICAL ENGINEERING

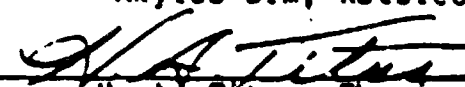
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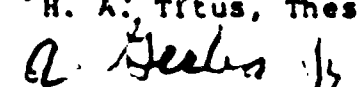
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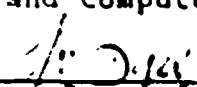

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ABSTRACT

This work produced a simulation capable of giving the effectiveness of chaff used in the self-protective mode. Signal processing techniques were studied in chaff discrimination in crucial missile conditions. A missile-ship-chaff model will be constructed to provide the optimum confusion of the missile. The radar included in this simulation is a tracking radar with conical-scan modulation. Results of simulation runs illustrate the effects of varying chaff radar cross section when ship and chaff are in the same resolution cell.



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I. INTRODUCTION

A. SEPARATION OF SIGNALS

In many cases we would like to separate two signals from a measurement which is a function of their combination such as their sum. One of the signals is usually "noise" and the other the "signal" or "information." Techniques for separating two signals if they have different power spectra are well known; for example, Matched filter and Weiner filter.

The case when two signals have almost the same power spectra must be treated in a different way. The following are two basic approaches to the problem:

- (i) Use all of the statistical information about the signal to achieve the separation.
- (ii) Design measuring techniques such that the two signals will be separable in some sense.

The specific application to be addressed in this research is the tracking radar case where it is necessary to separate a target from chaff.

The objective is to estimate the effectiveness of the chaff in a variety of situations. Unfortunately, "effectiveness" has nearly as many meanings as there are individuals working on chaff concepts.

Some people are interested in chaff performance only for the first few seconds after dispersal. Some are concerned

with tracking errors due to chaff and others are interested in multi-target problems in search mode when there are several chaff clouds.

B. APPLICATION TO TRACKING RADAR

In radar tracking we can have the real target and the false target (chaff) which are in the same resolution cell (ΔR = Range cell, $\Delta \alpha$ = angle cell). Because of the false target we cannot measure the position of the real target (angles and range). For tracking, we must be able to measure the error in range, azimuth and elevation where the error equals the deviation of the actual target position from the estimated position as given by the midpoint of the resolution cell.

In order to accomplish this, the radar has two windows (gates) for each observable (R, θ, ϕ). The "weight" of the target in each window is measured by the difference between the normalized weights of each window for each observable. This is used in the calculation to determine target position.

In range we have two gates, the early and the late gates. By measuring the weight of each gate we compute the error in range as:

$$\Delta R = R_0 (V_{eg} - V_{lg}) / (V_{eg} + V_{lg})$$

where

ΔR = The computed error in range

$2\Delta t$ = The width of the range gate

t_0 = The position of the range gate (centered at the predicted range from past observations)

c = Velocity of light

$$V_{eg} = \int_{t_0 - \Delta t}^{t_0} v(t) dt$$

$$V_{lg} = \int_{t_0}^{t_0 + \Delta t} V(t) dt$$

$V(t)$ = The received signal

The time representation of the range gates and received signals (V_{eg}, V_{lg}) is given in Fig. 1.1.

When we have two targets in the same resolution cell, the computed error would depend upon the "centroid of gravity" (radar center) of the radar return of the two targets.

Because the two targets have the same (or about the same) power spectral density we cannot distinguish between them by spectral analysis. The object of this research is to estimate the true position of the false target.

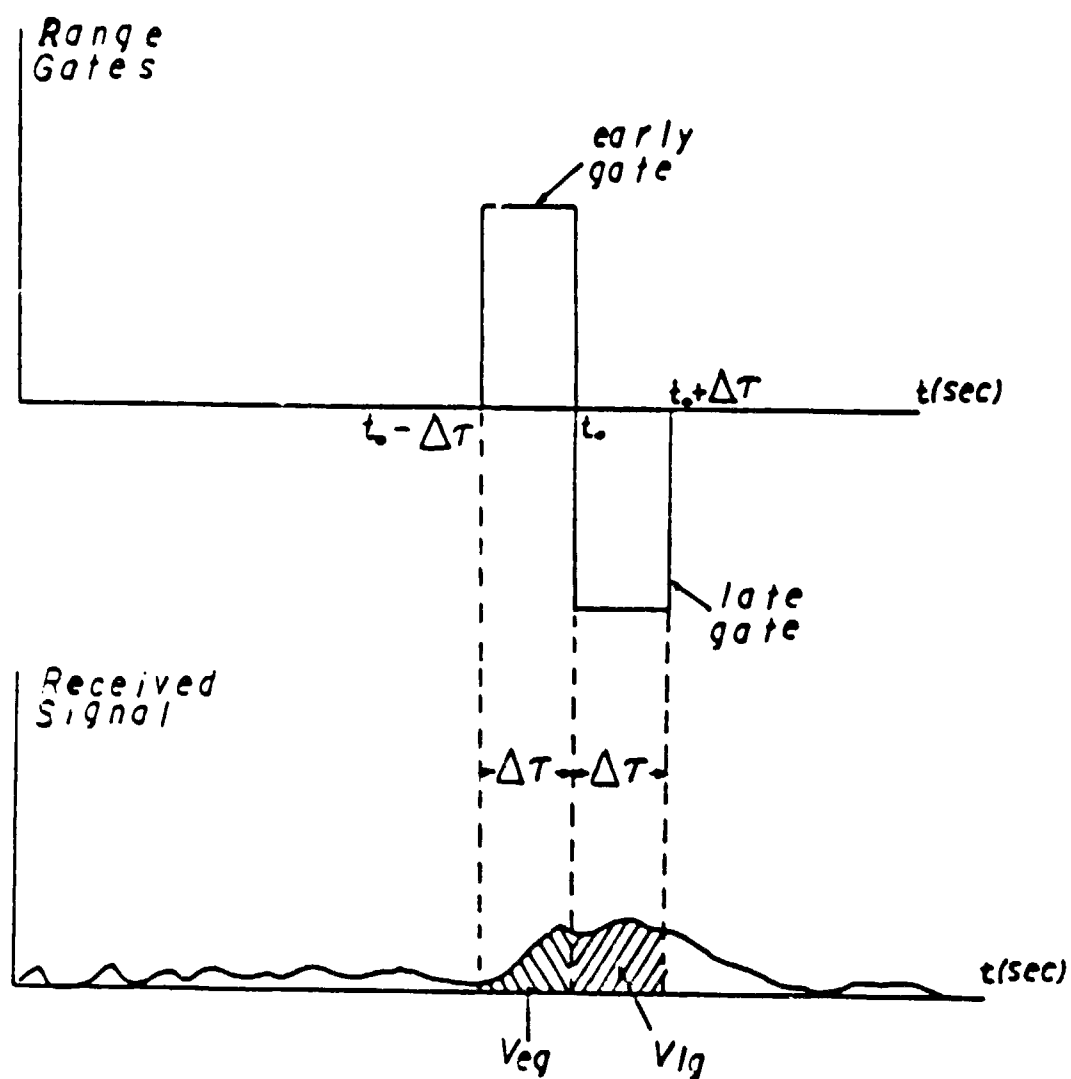


Figure 1.1 Time Representation of the Range Gates and Received Signals V_{eq} , V_{lg}

We apply the following constraints:

- (i) An estimator which can be used on missiles, needs simple algorithms with the memory size and the amount of computation restricted.
- (ii) The size of the antenna is fixed.
- (iii) We will not search for a solution in the r.f. range because for each r.f. it is possible to have chaff adapted to that frequency.
- (vi) We will restrict ourselves to surface targets which imply no reasonable Doppler shift between the target and chaff.

11. BACKGROUND THEORY

A. INTRODUCTION TO TRACKING

A tracking radar system measures the coordinates of a target and provides data which may be used to determine the target path and to predict its future position. All or only part of the available radar data-range, elevation angle, azimuth angle and doppler frequency shift may be used in predicting future position; that is, a radar might track 1 range, angle or doppler or any combination.

The function of tracking radar is to select a particular target and follow its course in range, angle and sometimes in doppler frequency.

B. TRACKING BY RADAR

Tracking systems can be achieved by two different techniques.

1. Track-While-Scan (TWS)

This method of tracking basically uses data from search radar. The idea is to take an observation of the target each time that the antenna sweeps by the tracked target. This tracking class is not of interest in this study.

2. Continuous Tracking Radar

In this method of tracking, the antenna is always directed at the target due to action of the control system.

There are several methods of tracking (i.e., methods of generating the error signals to close the off boresight antenna position). The important methods are:

- (i) Conical scan (Cs)
- (ii) Monopulse

Those methods are distinguished by their difference in angle tracking. The principle of range tracking is almost the same for all radars. Since the most accurate and interesting case is the conical scan, we will concentrate on it and after will give the theory of the other techniques in summary.

3. Angle Tracking

a. Conical Scan

In a conical scan system, angles are measured by a single antenna, whose radiation pattern rotates periodically about a certain axis as shown in Fig. 2.1. When the target is in the axis direction, the radar will have a constant return signal. The coordinates of the off axis target is determined on the basis of comparison to the envelope of received signals with a reference signal. For this reason we cannot measure the error in one pulse but we have to wait at least one period of antenna scan to get the information. A block diagram of the C.S. system is given in Figure 2.2. The antenna A scans in space with angular frequency ω_s . Two references for the phase detector are generated by the antenna (Az and El). The position of the

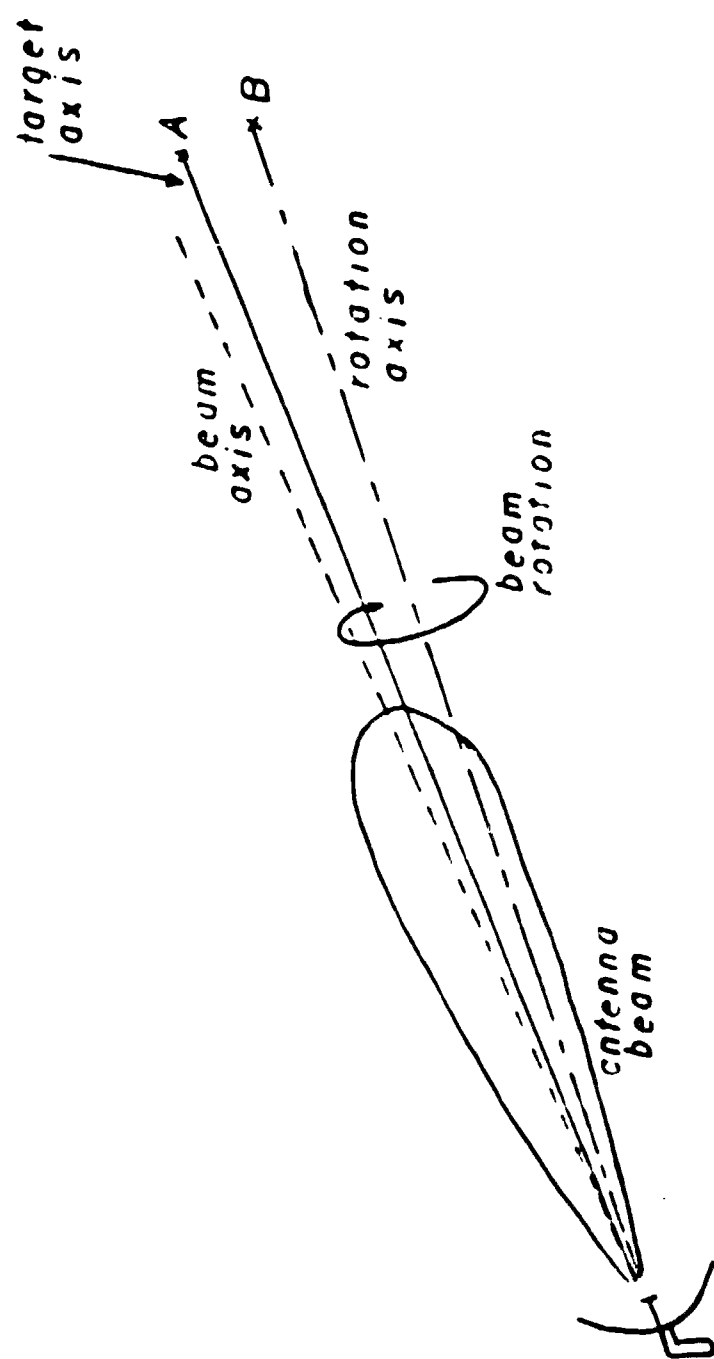


Figure 2.1 Conical-Scan Radar Tracking

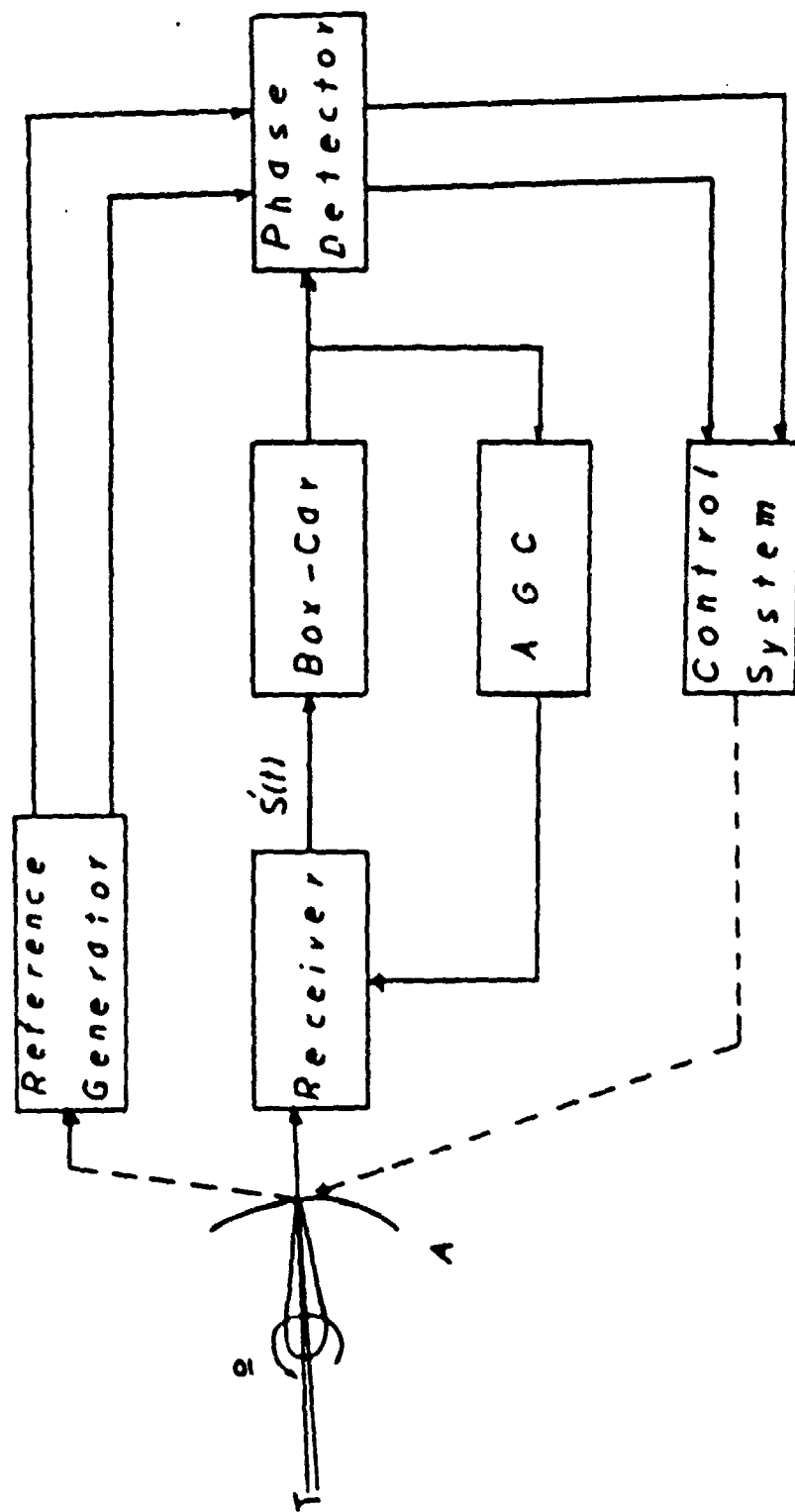


Figure 2.2 Block Diagram of Conical-Scan (C.S.) System

antenna is controlled by the control system. Assume one target at position T. Because the target is assumed to be off the axis of rotation, the echo signal will be modulated at frequency w_g (C.S. frequency). The amplitude of the signal depends on the position of the target with respect to axis of rotation and the phase will depend on the direction of the angle between the target and rotation axis.

When the antenna is on the target we will get zero modulation at the receiving signal. The modulation pulses pass through a receiver which is controlled by an AGC (automatic gain control). The signal then passes through a "box-car" circuit which changes the amplitude modulated pulses).

The outputs from the phase detectors (for Az and El) are the errors in El and Az and by using these errors we can close the loop on a control system which will move the antenna to reduce the error to zero, so the antenna "looks" towards the target.

Because we would like to have the same amount of error for the same error angle, independent of the target and range we have to measure the modulation index. The method which is usually used to achieve this objective is the AGC (automatic gain control). The purpose of the AGC is to make the average power to be a constant. This can be accomplished by controlling the gain of the receiver.

The signal can be represented by:

$$S(t, \theta_r) = C[1 + m(\theta_r) \cos(\omega_s t + \phi_c)]$$

where

$m(\theta_r)$ = modulation index

ω_s = conical scan frequency of the antenna

ϕ_c = phase of signal relative to C.S. frequency

C = known constant

θ_r = the position angle of the target

b. Monopulse

A monopulse radar system is a tracking system that derives all its tracking error information from a single pulse. In addition, new and independent error information is generated with each new pulse.

The basic principle of monopulse radar is that of combining the R.F. circuits of two antennas to obtain simultaneously both sum and different signals.

Physically two antennas are not necessary since the "arithmetic" can be accomplished with a single parabolic reflector and two radiators, or "feeds", displaced from the focal point of the antennas.

The difference signal provides the magnitude of the angle error while the sum signal provides the reference to extract the sign of the error signal. The sum signal also provides a means of extracting the radar range measurement as in a conventional pulse radar.

When we want two-coordinate information (azimuth and elevation) then four antenna feeds are required to provide the sum and difference.

4. Range Tracking

The most widely used technique for tracking in range is based on two range gates. There are no special techniques for the method of angle tracking. Information about the range is taken, in most of the cases, from the sum channel in the monopulse radar and from the incoming pulses in C.S. As target speeds increase, it is difficult for an operator to perform at the necessary levels of efficiency over a period of time and automatic tracking becomes a necessity.

We will briefly cover the principle of automatic range tracking. The technique for automatically tracking in range is based on the idea of opening two gates before and after the estimated time of the center of arrival of the pulse ($t = 2R/c$, R = target range, c = velocity of light). One is the early gate (g_1), and the other is the late gate (g_2). The echo signal, position of the gates at particular instants and error signal are shown in Fig. 2.3.

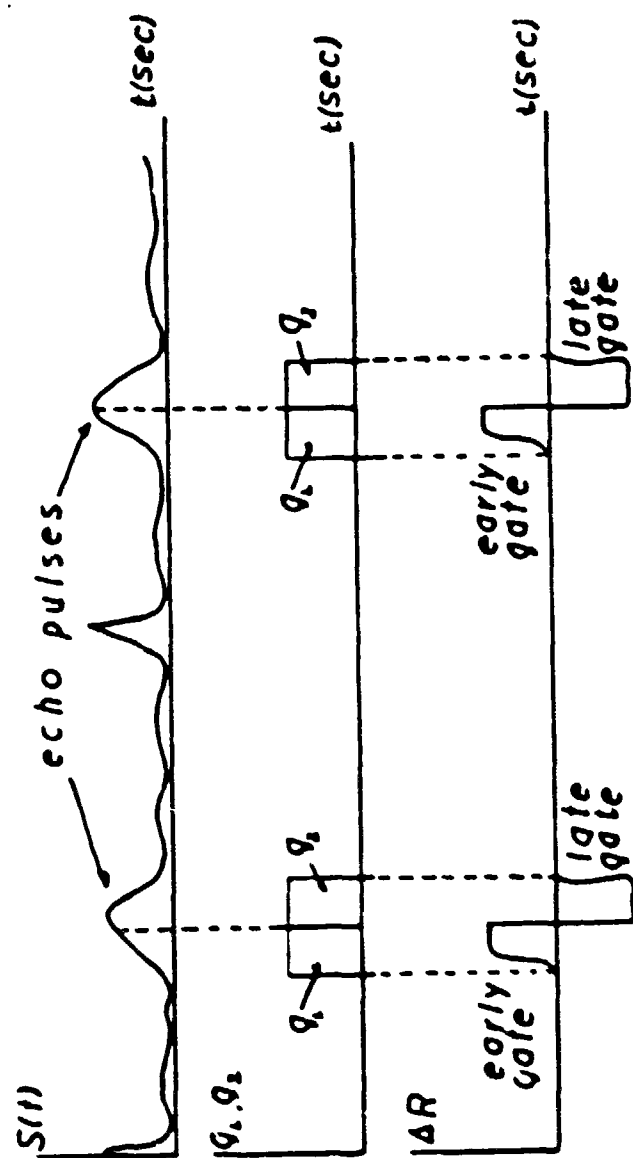


Figure 2.3 Echo Signal, Position of the Gates and Error Signal

The portion of the signal contained in the early gate subtracted from the portion of the signal contained in the late gate produces an error signal. The magnitude of the error is a measure of the difference between the center of the pulse and the estimated range which is the center of the two gates.

The error is fed into a control system to estimate the range and when the error signal is zero, the range gates are centered on the pulse.

Because we want to have the same output error, ΔR for all the targets, independent of the target, we must normalize the pulses, and this is done by AGC which has already been applied in angle tracking.

III. STATEMENT OF THE PROBLEM

A. INTERFERENCE CAUSED BY TWO TARGETS

Let's consider the problem of tracking when a false target is in the same resolution cell, i.e.,

$$\Delta L/R < \theta_{3db} \quad \Delta R < c\Delta t/2$$

where:

θ_{3db} = the beamwidth of the antenna (in radians)

$2\Delta t$ = pulse length

R = range of target

ΔL = the difference between the true target and the false target perpendicular to the line of sight of the antenna

ΔR = the difference between the true target and the false target in range

c = velocity of light

For simplicity, let us consider the two dimensional case only (range and elevation). The principle in three dimensions is the same but more complicated, and the results can be obtained by a straightforward extrapolation of the

two-dimensional case. We will consider the case of point targets for developing the theory, but we will implement the results when the targets have complex structure.

B. INTERFERENCE IN ANGLE CREATED FROM TWO TARGETS

Changes in the target aspect with respect to the radar can cause the apparent center of radar reflections to wander from one point to another. In general, the apparent center of reflection might not correspond to the target center. The angular fluctuations produced with small targets at long range may be of little consequence in most instants. However, at short range or with relatively large targets (as might be seen by a radar seeker on a homing missile), angular fluctuations may be a chief factor limiting tracking accuracy. Angle fluctuations affect all tracking radars whether conical-scan or monopulse.

Consider the case of two point targets in the same resolution cell of the radar with spacing ΔL (i.e., $\Delta L/R < \theta_{3dB}$, $\Delta R < c\Delta t/2$). As the relative path lengths between the radar antenna and the two sources vary (i.e., R_1 and R_2), the two signals will alternately add and subtract, and so the amplitude and phase of arrived signals will change. Although such a simple situation (two point targets) may be fictitious, it will illustrate the main behavior. The relative amplitude between the RCS (Radar cross section) of the two targets is assumed to be a constant "A" and the

relative phase difference also constant, "a". The difference in phase is due to difference in range (ΔR) or to reflecting properties. The relative angular error ($\Delta\theta/\theta_0$) is given by [Ref. 1].

$$\Delta\theta/\theta_0 = [A^2 + A\cos(a)]/[1 + A^2 + 2A\cos(a)]$$

The position of the stronger target corresponds to $\Delta\theta/\theta_0 = 0$, while the smaller target position is at $\Delta\theta/\theta_0 = 1$ as in Figure 3.1.

The position of the tracking system depends on the relative phase "a" and the ratio "A". One can show that for $0 \leq A \leq 1$ and $0 \leq a < 2\pi$ the values of $\Delta\theta/\theta_0$ will be between:

$$-0.5 < \Delta\theta/\theta_0 \leq 0.5$$

When the echo signals are in phase, the error reduces to $A/(A+1)$, which corresponds to the so-called "center of gravity" of the two targets.

Now, when we have a complex target, such as a chaff or a ship, the ratio "A" is a random variable which changes from pulse to pulse. Taking these into the given servo loop of the radar system, one can compute the statistics of the random variable $\Delta\theta$, and this can give us a good approximation

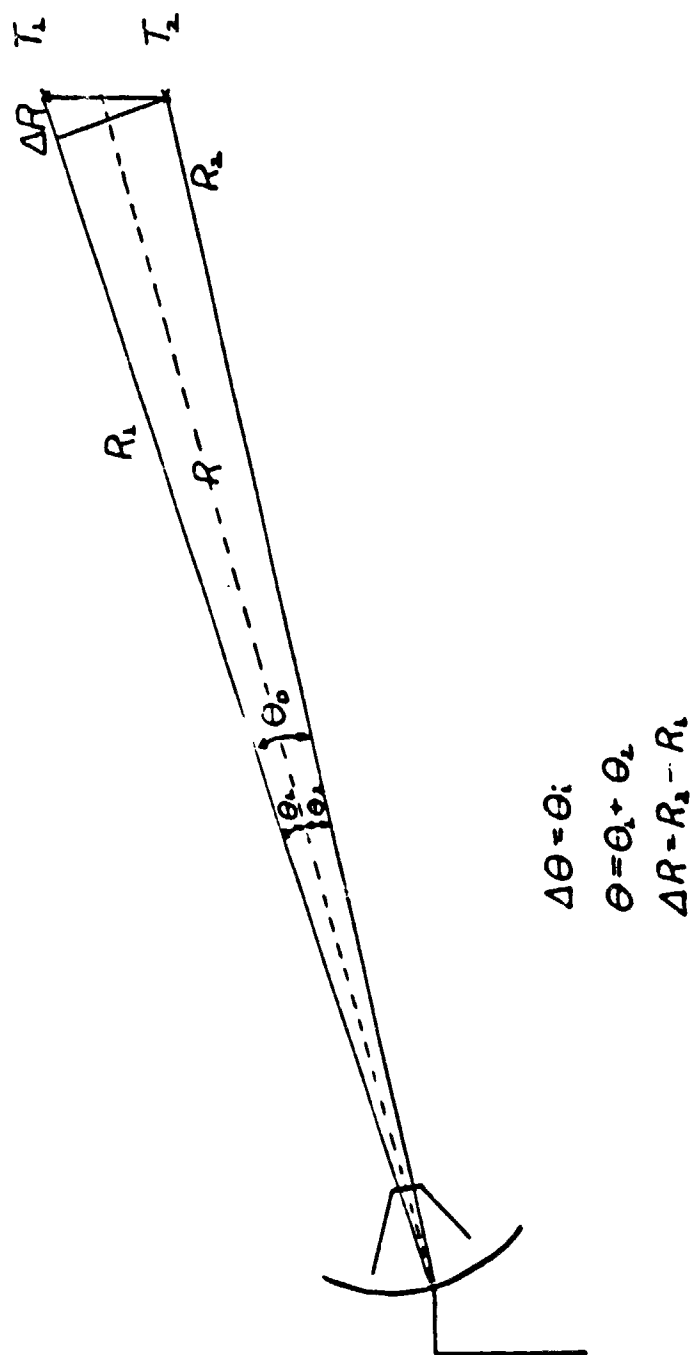


Figure 3.1 Geometric Representation of the Problem

of the error (for example, mean and variance) caused by the addition of two targets in the same resolution cell.

However, the simple case results are sufficient for our problem, to show that the results of two target returns in the same resolution cell causes an error in the estimation of the position of the true target which depends on the signal ratio between the two targets. When the two targets have a complex structure rather than a point, the results are much more complicated and we have to take into account the circuits involved and the statistics of the target's returns.

C. CONCLUSION

In the last paragraph we have studied that when there is an additional target in the resolution cell, the radar will not track on either of the targets, but on their center of gravity. In order to eliminate this phenomenon, we must change the design of the radar so that it will track on two targets. There are two main ways for accomplishing this objective:

- (i) Extract information of the location of the target by processing the signal after the receiver.
- (ii) Modify the receiver and the filtering process after the receiver in order to extract the information of the two targets.

We will consider later the case of a ship as the true target and the chaff as the false target.

IV. COATED DIPOLES AS CONFUSION REFLECTORS

A. CHAFF

Chaff is defined in standard dictionaries as husks of grain or anything useless. Chaff is now a general term that is defined as follows: Elemental passive reflectors, absorbers or refractors of radar which can be floated or otherwise suspended in the atmosphere or exoatmosphere for the purpose of confusing screening or otherwise adversely affecting the performance victim missile system. Examples are: metal foils, metal coated dielectrics (aluminum, silver and zinc on nylon or glass), aerosols and semiconductors.

Chaff can be manufactured to be effective over wide frequency ranges. It does not depend on a prior knowledge or detailed information about victim missile systems. Also when properly deployed, it is effective against many radars simultaneously. These two facts produce tremendous advantage when planning to defend a ship against a complex of radar and missile systems that are being continually updated.

1. Chaff Materials

During the early years, after the Second World War, aluminum foils cut into strips were still widely used and

are still one of the principal types of the chaff material today. The more recent types include aluminum coated glass filaments developed by Bjorksten Research Laboratories in the USA and silver-coated nylon monofilament developed by Cherming [Ref. 3]. These three types constitute the majority of chaff materials being manufactured today and described in more detail.

Basic properties of the three principal chaff types are given in Table I. The great majority of silver-coated nylon aluminized glass is produced with the nominal diameter shown for each type. Three types of aluminum chaff and the differences of these filaments are shown in the first column of Table I. They have an effect on the chaff motion and hence, radar response of the dipoles.

The composition and characteristics of each type are described below.

a. Silver-Coated Nylon

Silver-coated nylon consists of a thin deposit of silver on nylon monofilament. Long dipoles (≈ 50 mm) tend to show an exaggerated zig-zag motion, but the descent is still predominantly horizontal. Because of this flight attitude, in the long term, a chaff cloud formed with silver-nylon dipoles will show a strong reflection of horizontally polarized waves but appreciably lower vertical-polarization response. In the first few seconds after

TABLE I
COMPARISON OF PHYSICAL PROPERTIES OF COMMON CHAFF TYPES

Type	Nominal section dimensions of flattents	Density of material (1)	Normal maximum packing density (2)	Normal maximum bulk density (1) x (2) 100	Mean fall rate in still air at sea level	Ratio of number of discs per unit volume of payload (silver nylon = 1)
	μm	kg/m^3	%	kg/m^3	m/s	
Aluminised glass	25	2550	55	1403	0.30	10.97
Silver coated nylon	90	1300	65	845	0.60	1.00
monoflament						
2 x 1 aluminium	50 x 25	2700	55	1485	0.40 - 0.45	4.31
foil						
4 x 1 aluminium	100 x 25	2700	55	1485	0.50 - 0.55	2.15
foil						
8 x 1/2 V bend	200 x 12	2700	45	1215	0.50 - 0.55	1.84
aluminium foil						

deployment, this polarization effect is not significant because of turbulence induced by the dispensing system. Silver-nylon has two disadvantages; it is fairly expensive material and also cannot normally be manufactured in diameters smaller than the nominal 90 mm. Therefore the number of dipoles in a given payload space will be less than most other materials, and the theoretical radar cross-section of the chaff could will be lower.

However, a silver-nylon chaff has the least tendency of all chaff materials to birdnest, and this, to some extent, compensates for the lower numbers of dipoles per unit volume especially at low frequencies. The major disadvantages of silver-nylon are its low bulk density and robustness. The dipoles can withstand large dispensing forces and suffer little or no permanent distortion.

b. Aluminum Foil

Aluminum foil chaff is produced by shredding reels of foil into filaments whose length is equal to the width of the original reel of foil. The shredding process causes a regular series of twists to be put into the filament length, and hence dipoles produced from these filaments are also twisted. This gives aluminum foil chaff types their distinctive flight motion.

The predominant flight mode of 4 x 1 aluminum is termed helicopter motion, and as the name implies, the

dipoles descend with rapid rotation in the horizontal plane. The comments regarding horizontal and vertical polarization made for silver nylon also apply to 4 x 1 aluminum.

Spiral motion occurs principally in 2 x 1 aluminum, and the dipole descends at an angle usually between 15 and 60 to the horizontal in a slow spiral without tumbling or rapid rotation of the dipole itself. Because of the large vertical component in the flight motion, 2 x 1 aluminum is used a great deal in naval applications, where the chaff cloud may be required to retain a high degree of omnipolarized response for some time. This is illustrated later, where relative responses in horizontal and vertical polarization are compared for 2 x 1 aluminum and aluminized glass.

Lead particles suspended in a lacquer can be applied in stripes running along the length of a reel of foil. When shredded and cut to dipole lengths compatible with the original stripe spacing, dipoles are produced with the lead stripe at one end. However, this type of chaff is no longer commonly used and has been superseded in some cases by 2 x 1 aluminum.

The distinctive feature of 8 x 1/2 aluminum foil chaff is its V-section. The dipoles are bent mid-way across width, and the bend extends along the length of the dipole. This bend is put in during the shredding process and results

in long 8 x 1/2 dipoles being more rigid than 4 x 1 or 2 x 1 dipoles of corresponding length. Therefore, 8 x 1/2 aluminum is most useful for low-frequency dipoles.

c. Aluminized Glass

Aluminized glass is the slowest descending chaff of all the common types, and its small diameter means that the number of dipoles per unit volume of payload space is very large compared with silver-nylon or the aluminum foil types. The flight motion is basically horizontal, because the dipoles are cylindrical in section with no major distortions. However, the section is not so regular or smooth as silver nylon, and dipoles sometimes have a slight degree of spiral as a result of the manufacturing process. Therefore, the average vertical polarization response per dipole is greater than with silver-nylon, but not so great as a 2 x 1 aluminum.

d. Other Materials

Other types of chaff material include zinc-coated glass filaments and copper-coated polyester filament. Zinc is about 4-5 times as resistive as copper and is, therefore, near the lower limit for consideration as an efficient scattering material.

Copper plating of large quantities of fine filaments is an expensive process compared with shredding aluminum foil or aluminum-coating glass filaments, and the

resultant chaff offers no significant advantages over the more common chaff types.

Carbon or graphite fibers are difficult to coat with metals and in themselves are too resistive to act as efficient scatterers.

While other new chaff materials will certainly be developed, there is scope for improvement of manufacturing processes for the current materials. It is important to improve the efficiency with which the available materials are used, e.g., reduction of amount of dispensing, reduction of the time to achieve maximum RCS (Radar Cross Section) and the investigation of ways of dispensing which allow cheaper and more efficient deployment.

B. PRINCIPLES OF MICROWAVE REFLECTION BY CHAFF

The general philosophy of using bundle chaff to confuse a radar is that chaff bundles should be dispensed at a rate such that there will be less than the victim radar range cell distance between successive bundle blooms or a near continuous dipole field within each victim radar angle cell or antenna beamwidth. This philosophy is generally true when chaff clouds present false target at relatively large distances away from a friendly ship to be protected.

An important consideration is J/S where J is the signal reflected by the RCS of the chaff and the S is the RCS (Radar Cross Section) signal from a target within the chaff

cloud or being protected by chaff bundles. Generally, the ratio J/S should be greater than three db for successful chaff protection.

1. Radar Cross Section

Chaff consists of electrically conducting filaments which are cut to form dipoles that are resonant at particular wavelengths. When chaff is ejected into the atmosphere, the maximum theoretical RCS (Radar Cross Section) size corresponding to the total number of ejected dipoles is never achieved. In fact, only a minority of the dipoles dispensed become effective as reflector confusion to the victim radar. Randomly oriented dipoles with respect to the direction of incident electromagnetic wave have average cross section (σ) [Ref. 2]:

$$\sigma = .18\lambda^2 N$$

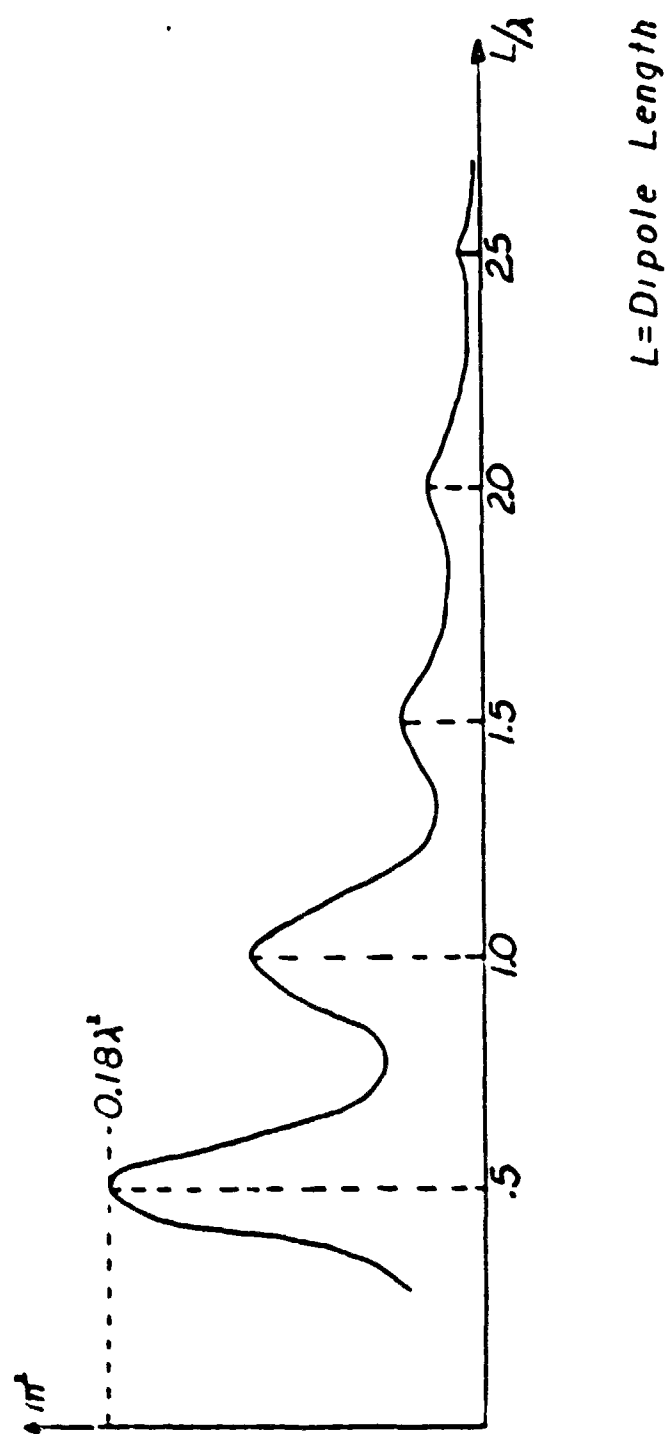
where

σ = the cross section in sq. meters

λ = wavelength in meters

N = number of effective dipoles

The average single dipole cross section versus frequency for random orientation is shown in Fig. 4.1. The



$L = \text{Dipole Length}$

Figure 4.1 Average Single Dipole RCS Graph

maximum cross section occurs when the chaff particle is less than $1/2\lambda$ long. This is because the electromagnetic wave travels more slowly in the dipole material than in free space. The physical half wavelength becomes shorter as the width or diameter of the conductor increases in proportion to the length. The ratio A, of length to diameter or width of dipoles has to be taken into account when computing the resonant frequency.

So for cylindrical dipoles [Ref. 3]:

$$A = L/d$$

where:

d = the diameter of dipole

L = the length of dipole

For rectangular section dipoles [Ref. 3]:

$$A = 4L/w$$

where

w = the dipole width (the largest dimension of the dipole end section)

The variation of dipole length as a fraction of the wavelength against the aspect ratio is shown in Fig. 4.2.

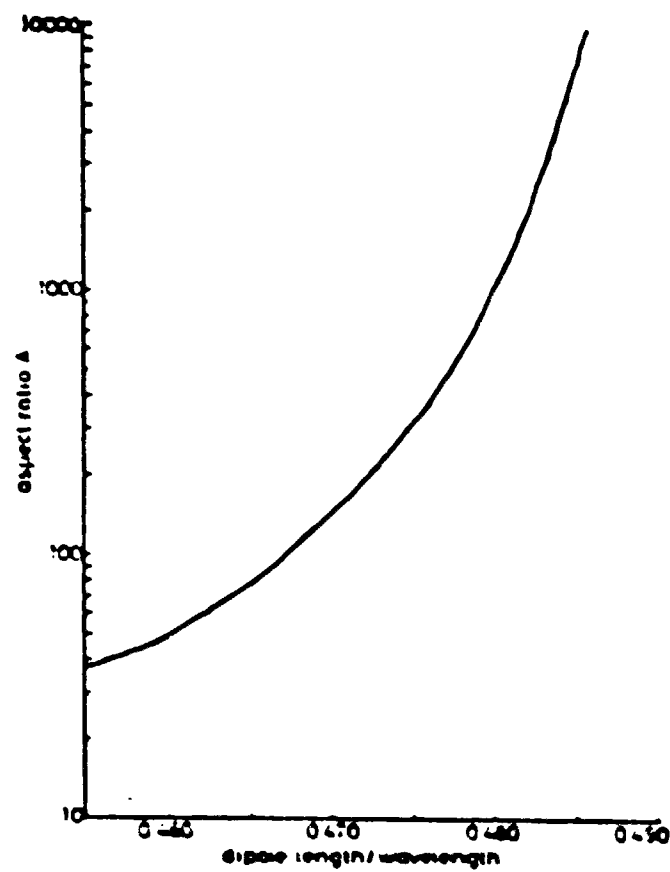


Figure 4.2 Variation of Dipole-Length/Wavelength with Dipole Aspect Ratio

The conductive coating of the cylindrical dipole should have a radius which is large compared with the skin depth, and the conductive coating thickness should be at least equal to the skin depth to RF resistance. The requirement for low RF resistance has tended to limit the choice of metals to aluminum, silver, copper, or zinc. Because of its low cost and high conductivity, aluminum is the most used material.

A chaff filament will have its largest effective RCS (Radar Cross Section) at its dipole resonant frequency but will show significant levels of response when it is a full wave resonator and at further multiples of the half wavelength.

When forming a chaff pack, the harmonic peaks must have the required frequency band. The bundle is said to have purity if all of the dipoles are of single length alternatively, the bandwidth of the chaff bundle can be broadened, almost arbitrarily with an approximate mix of lengths in a single bundle. Another bandwidth broadening approach is to dispense multiple bundles, each cut for different frequencies.

With metallic foil or metal coated, a dielectric dipole will reflect a signal back to the radar which has a randomly modulated frequency bandwidth with less than plus or minus about 100 Hz around the carrier frequency of radar.

2. Operational Consideration

When chaff is dispensed, it grows in few tenths of a second up to several seconds, depending on the type of the dispenser used. At high altitudes the chaff will fall faster than at lower altitudes because of the thickness of the air. The average fall rates are roughly about 250 ft per minute for fine foil-type dipoles. The fine metal-coated dielectric dipoles, sometimes called angel hair, can fall much more slowly and even rise in altitude under usual conditions.

One individual unit of dispensing chaff is called a packet, muffin, cylinder, or bundle. Many hundreds of thousands of dipoles can be contained in one bundle of metallic-foil chaff or many millions in a bundle of metallic-coated dielectric chaff.

The polarization of chaff can change as the dipoles fall. Some dipoles will have a tendency to remain approximately horizontal and some will remain vertical. Depending on the environment of conditions, the top portion of the chaff cloud may have a tendency for reflecting horizontally polarized waves and the lower portion may have a tendency for reflecting vertically polarized waves.

When a beam of radar illuminates an area of chaff cloud it receives the largest reflected energy from the dipoles that are located on or near the surface of that

area. The dipoles nearest the radar will disperse the portion of the radar energy which these intercept in all directions, so reducing the incident radar energy before it impinges on these dipoles in the chaff cloud that is farther from the radar. The reflected energy from these dipoles will be dispersed in the same manner. Therefore, all the effective dipoles dispensed are not equally effective against a single radar.

A target beyond a chaff cloud should appear smaller to the radar because the radar signal experiences an effective attenuation during each of two traversals of the chaff cloud. So using conventional metallic dipoles, density of cloud must be extremely high for low values of attenuation.

3. Chaff Applications

Chaff in Naval use is most commonly ejected from rocket shell or mortar systems. Naval rockets can contain up to 7 kg of chaff, and mortar systems typically dispense up to 3 kg of chaff from several grenades fired simultaneously. There are three main modes of use for chaff at sea.

a. First Mode

This is known as distraction decoy dispensed by rockets and shells at ranges up to 2 km from the vessel, and a pattern of several rockets fired in different directions

is used to provide alternative targets to missiles, which are still at some distance from the vessel.

b. Second Mode

This is known as the dump mode; it is used closer to the vessel (less than 1 km away) where it works as passive ECM (Electronic Counter Measure) to deny range information to the seeker and is used in conjunction with chaff fired from a rocket as false target to the attacking missile.

c. Third Mode

This is known as the centroid mode, used very close to the ship where the chaff cloud is dispensed at a range of 100-400 m. A large echoing area must be realized in a few seconds of firing and the chaff cloud appears initially near the ship. After the ship goes out and away from the chaff echo the missile becomes confused, avoiding the true target. The centroid mode is achieved with rockets or mortar systems and is a tactic which will succeed best with vessels of relatively small RCS (Radar Cross Section) such as converts or other ships.

In Naval uses, multipath effects can be used with advantage where the free-space RCS of a chaff cloud is greatly enhanced by its proximity to the sea.

Various techniques are employed in Naval dispensers to decrease the time required for a chaff cloud

to achieve maximum RCS, and in the case of self-protection applications for ships, the mechanisms to dispense the chaff have become quite sophisticated.

C. CONCLUSION

The task of discriminating between chaff and the target that it is intended to protect may appear to be easy, especially with the increasing sophistication of modern radars and signal processing techniques. There are several factors which, taken together, justify the existence of chaff and promote its use:

- (i) Improved dispensing systems and the tactics used with them, have counterbalanced the improvements in radar systems with regard to chaff discrimination.
- (ii) If the chaff can be discriminated from real targets, the discrimination process itself means that valuable time is spent by a computer system. So the presence of chaff echoes must degrade the overall performance of the system.
- (iii) Chaff is a cheap electronic countermeasure. Chaff dispensers are, in themselves, relatively low cost items compared with, for instance, an active jamming. The ammunition for the chaff dispenser is also a low cost item when compared with maintenance and repair of an active system.
- (iv) It is difficult to produce large radar echoes at a great distance from a vessel under command from that vessel except by the use of chaff dispersed from a rocket or shell.

While other decoys may be developed, chaff dispensing is currently far more efficient and cost effective in this regard than any other technique.

V. CONICAL-SCAN MODULATION

The effect of conical scanning is to multiply the complex envelope of the echo signal from a target not on the boresight of the radar by a modulation function $m(t)$ that is periodic at the scan frequency f_s .

The X-band radar used to collect chaff data employs conical scanning to generate error signals for the control system which maintains the beam on target. Unfortunately, the statistics of the received signal are modified by the modulation induced by this scanning.

This section discusses the effect of conical-scan modulation on the echo signal from a chaff cloud; in particular one expression is given that shows how the spectral density is modified by the modulation. Fortunately in this study, conical-scan modulation has only a slight effect on spectral density.

Suppose $z_m(t)$ and $z(t)$ are the complex envelope of the echo signal when conical-scan modulation is and is not present respectively.

Assume that (1) all dipoles lie within the mainlobe of the antenna pattern and (2) the phase of the antenna is constant across the mainlobe. Under these assumptions the modulation function will depend on the transmitted beam

pattern, the scan rate and the positions of the dipoles relative to the rotation axis.

In the appendix, it is shown that [Ref. 4]:

$$z_m(t) = m(t) z(t)$$

where the modulation function $m(t)$ may be approximated by an expression of the form:

$$m(t) = M_o + B M_o \cos(2\pi f_s t + a)$$

where

B = estimated amplitude data for a chaff data set

f_s = scan frequency

M_o, a = unknowns

The autocorrelation function of $z_m(t)$ obtained by time averaging is then [Ref. 4]:

$$\begin{aligned} R z_m(\tau) &= \overline{z_m(t + \tau) z_m(t)} \\ &= M_o^2 + (M_o^2 B^2 / 2) \cos(2\pi f_s \tau) \} R z(\tau) \end{aligned} \quad (5-1)$$

where $R z(\tau)$ is the autocorrelation function of $z(t)$.

Taking the Fourier transform of both sides of (5-1) gives the relationship between the spectral densities of $z_m(t)$ and $z(t)$ [Ref. 4]:

$$S_{z_m}(f) = M_0^2 S_z(f) + (M_0^2 B^2 / 4) S_z(f - f_s) + (M_0^2 B^2 / 4) S_z(f + f_s) \quad (5-2)$$

So $S_{z_m}(f)$ is the sum of three terms as follows:

- a) First term is $M_0^2 S_z(f)$
- b) Second and third terms are $(M_0^2 B^2 / 4) S_z(f - f_s)$ and $(M_0^2 B^2 / 4) S_z(f + f_s)$ shifted by $-f_s$ and $+f_s$ respectively.

Let $n_m(f)$ and $n(f)$ denote the normalized unity area frequency density functions corresponding to $S_{z_m}(f)$ and $S_z(f)$ respectively; then [Ref. 4]:

$$n_m(f) = (1 - 2b)n(f) + bn(f - f_s) + bn(f + f_s) \quad (5-3)$$

where:

$$b = B^2 / (4 + 2B^2)$$

Of particular interest is the effect of conical scanning on the mean v_0 and standard deviation σ_v of the velocity density function $q(v)$.

Letting $q_m(v)$ and $q(v)$ denote the density functions with and without conical-scan modulation respectively obtained from (5-3), the relationship:

$$q_m(v) = (1-2b)q(v) + bq(v+v_s) + bq(v-v_s) \quad (5-4)$$

where:

$$v_s = -\lambda f_s/2$$

Using (5-4) it may be shown that the variance of $q_m(v)$ is:

$$\sigma_{vm}^2 = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} (v-v_o)^2 q_m(v) dv = \sigma_v^2 + 2bv_s^2 \quad (5-5)$$

where:

$$\sigma_v^2 = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} (v-v_o)^2 q(v) dv$$

Rearranging (5-5) we obtain a simplification for the standard deviation of the velocity density function.

$$\sigma_v = k \sigma_{vm}$$

where

$$K = (1-2bv_s^2/\sigma_{vm}^2)^{1/2}$$

An expression for the error in σ_v due to conical-scan modulation is [Ref. 4]:

$$e\sigma = \sigma_{vm} - \sigma_v = (1-k)\sigma_{vm}$$

Finally, define the conical scan distortion ratio D_s as [Ref. 4]:

$$D_s = b/(1-2b) = B^2/4$$

so that D_s is the ratio of the heights of the shifted components in $n_m(f)$ introduced by conical scanning to the height of the unshifted component.

Following is an example given as part of this section to show the spectral density $S_z(f)$ when conical-scan modulation is present.

A. EXAMPLE

It is desired to use the amplitude data $A = 0.12$ for a given chaff data set and normalize it so that $\bar{a}_m = 1.0$. Since A and \bar{a}_m are known, B may be estimated also; thus $B = (2A/\bar{a}_m)^{1/2} = 0.49$.

A plot of autocovariance $Cam(\tau)$ for the given data set where conical-scan modulation is present is shown in Figure 5.1. Taking the Fourier transform of autocovariance function yields the corresponding spectral density $Sam(f)$ as shown in Figure 5.2. In this case (given chaff data) the spectral density is very narrow so it is possible to the main peaks and the two secondary peaks predicted by (5-2).

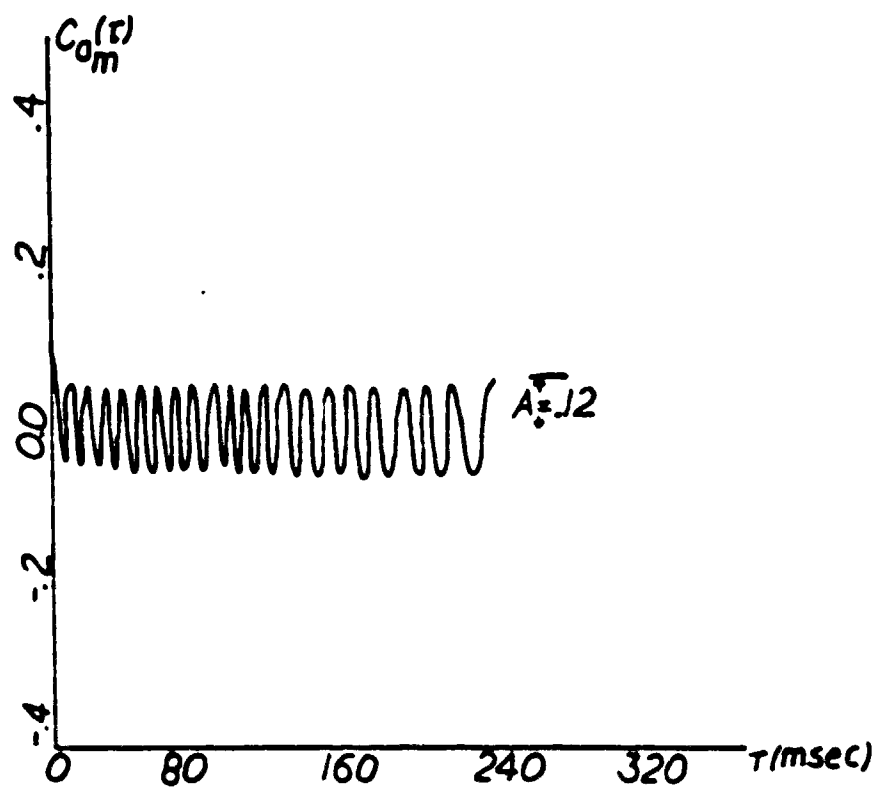


Figure 5.1 $C_m(\tau)$ with Conical-Scan Modulation

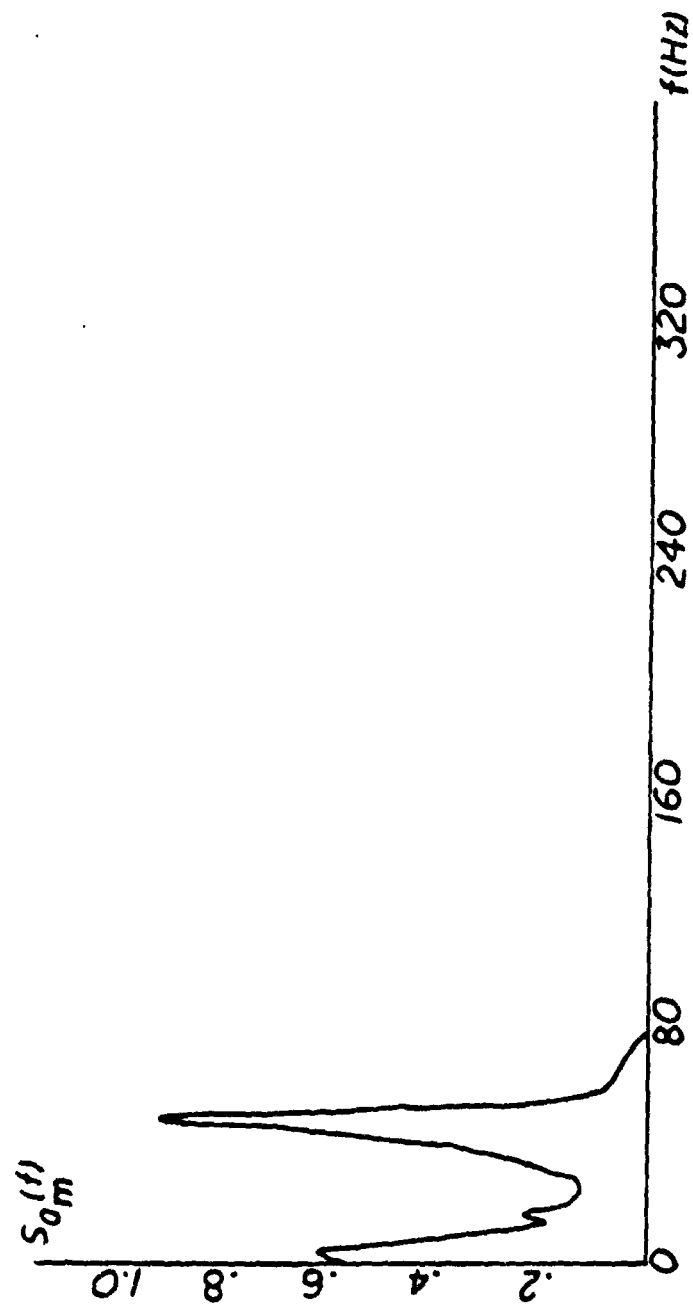


Figure 5.2 Spectral Density of Amplitude

If $F = 33$ Hz then, since $S_z(f)$ has been normalized, the height of the main peak at f_b is 1.0 as shown in Fig. 5.3. Thus expect by (5-2) that there should be two secondary peaks of height $D_s = 0.06$ added to $S_z(f)$ at $f + f_g$ and $f - f_g$, respectively.

As may be seen in the figure the results agree well with what we expect.

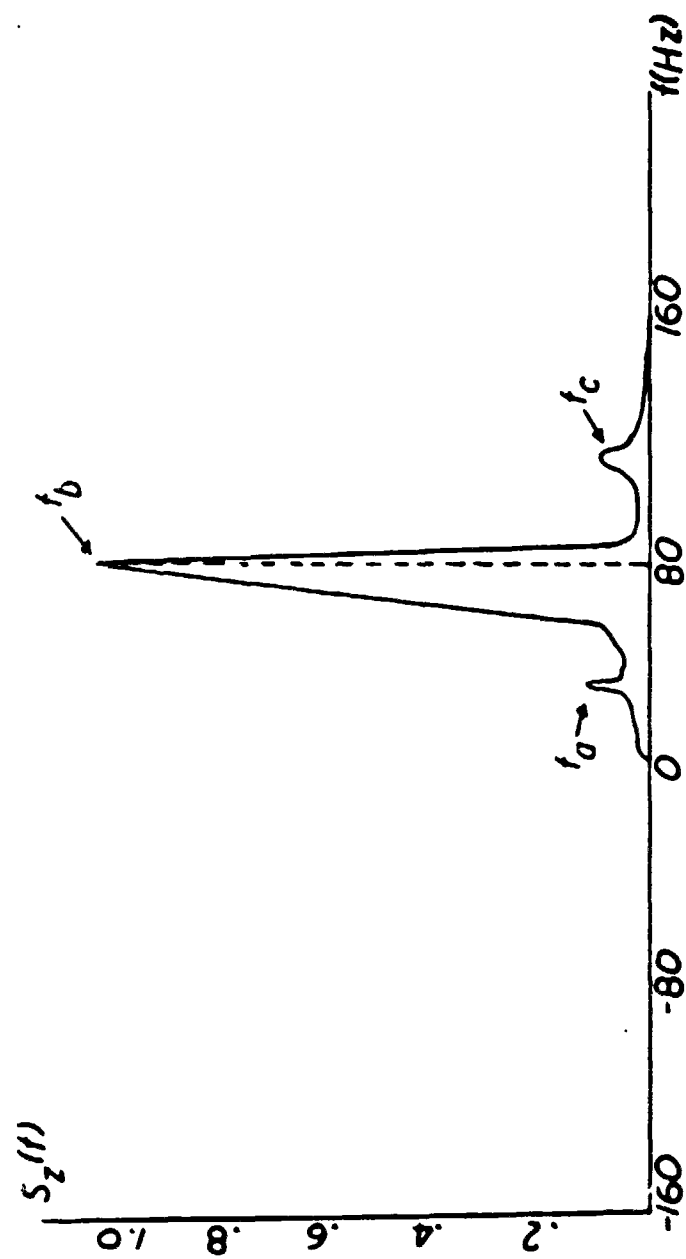


Figure 5.3 $S_z(f)$ when Conical-Scan Modulation is Present

VI. MODEL SIMULATION

A model missile-ship-chaff has been simulated on a computer program [Ref. 5]. The simulation requires continuous calculation while maintaining the constraint that both ship and chaff remain within the same radar resolution cell. The simulation must be flexible enough to accommodate ship, chaff and scenario parameters as desired to provide the optimum confusion of the missile.

A. INPUT VARIABLES

Input variables needed to describe the ship are its radar cross section and initial range from the radar of the missile. The ship RCS (Radar Cross Section) will be assumed constant, to be specified by the user prior to simulation. For example, one can specify the average RCS over all aspect angles. Since the model assumes that the ship has constant RCS it is possible to vary while the simulation is in progress.

Input variables to describe the radar of missile is a 10 GHz X-band, pulsed radar with the following range specifications: 1) Maximum free space range is to be 40 km; 2) Minimum range should be 10 km; 3) Maximum unambiguous range should be at least equal to the maximum free space range.

B. TECHNICAL PARAMETERS

Known technical parameters for the radar follow:

- 1) Transmitter
 - Operating frequency is 10 GHz.
 - Wavelength is 0.03 meters.
 - Maximum power available is 250 kw.
 - Duty cycle is 0.004.
- 2) Receiver
 - Receiver operates at standard temperature.
 - Post-detection integration occurs in the receiver on all pulses lying in the 3 db beamwidth.
- 3) Targets - Targets are Swerling Case II with radar cross section as follows:
 - Ship = 5000 m^2
 - Chaff = 10000 m^2
 - Probability of detection is to be 90 percent.
- 4) Losses
 - Processing: 2 dB
 - Beam Shaping : 1 dB
 - No others.

Input variables to describe the chaff are RCS backscatter coefficient, height of chaff. After chaff is dispended for a few seconds the dipoles have some agitation that depend on the type of cartridge which has been used, then the term "new" chaff is referred to in this state. After a lot of time, only naturally occurring winds affect

the chaff dipoles; in this situation use the term "mature" chaff. The methods which are used to collect new-chaff and mature-chaff data are different in some way.

Because of the random motion of the dipoles these tend to cause a chaff cloud to grow with time. However, little quantitative information is available on chaff cloud size as a function of time and no attempt was made to measure chaff cloud dimensions during simulation.

An improved type of discrete chaff unit is the chaff cartridge which is a cylinder packed with aluminum-coated glass fibers and fired much like a shotgun shell.

C. "NEW" CHAFF DATA

To obtain new-chaff data, a leading range gate was positioned on the dispensing cartridge producing a chaff cloud the same as a wake. There are trailing gates positioned behind the leading gate received echoes from the new chaff. Based on this information, the chaff cloud is contained entirely within the radar beam.

D. "MATURE" CHAFF DATA

To obtain mature-chaff data, the range gate selected for recording was positioned at the range of the chaff cloud and the echo signal received in the gate was recorded for several seconds. For mature-chaff data the chaff cloud almost certainly extends beyond the beam since measurements were made minutes after dispensing.

E. REQUIREMENTS

The previous radar parameters and the discrete unit dispensing method are entered into in this model. The results of the simulation for new-chaff, mature-chaff clouds and range specifications for the optimum confusion of the missile will be presented below:

- 1) Chaff-to-noise-plus clutter ratio ($\text{Chaff}/\text{N}+\text{C}$) appears in Table II and Figure 6.1 for "new" chaff while Tables III, IV, and Figures 6.2, 6.3 for "mature" chaff.
- 2) Signal-to-noise-plus clutter ratio ($\text{S}/\text{N}+\text{C}$) appears in Tables V, VI, VII, and Figures 6.4, 6.5, and 6.6.
- 3) $\text{Chaff}/\text{N}+\text{C}$ and $\text{S}/\text{N}+\text{C}$ comparison appears in Figures 6.7, 6.8, and 6.9. In those figures the section of the curves shows the effective distance in which the missile is confused.

TABLE II

CHAFF/N+C VALUES VS. CHAFF-MISSILE DISTANCE (NEW CHAFF)

<u>Distance (km)</u>	<u>Chaff/N+C (db)</u>
1.00	27.613
2.00	20.046
3.00	14.762
4.00	11.014
5.00	8.106
6.00	5.731
7.00	3.722
8.00	1.982
9.00	0.448
10.00	-0.925
11.00	-2.167
12.00	-3.300
13.00	-4.343
14.00	-5.309
15.00	-6.208
16.00	-7.049
17.00	-7.838
18.00	-8.583
19.00	-9.288
20.00	-9.956
21.00	-10.592
22.00	-11.198
23.00	-11.777
24.00	-12.331
25.00	-12.863
26.00	-13.374
27.00	-13.866
28.00	-14.340
29.00	-14.797
30.00	-15.239
31.00	-15.666
32.00	-16.080
33.00	-16.480
34.00	-16.869
35.00	-17.247
36.00	-17.614
37.00	-17.971

NEW CHAFF

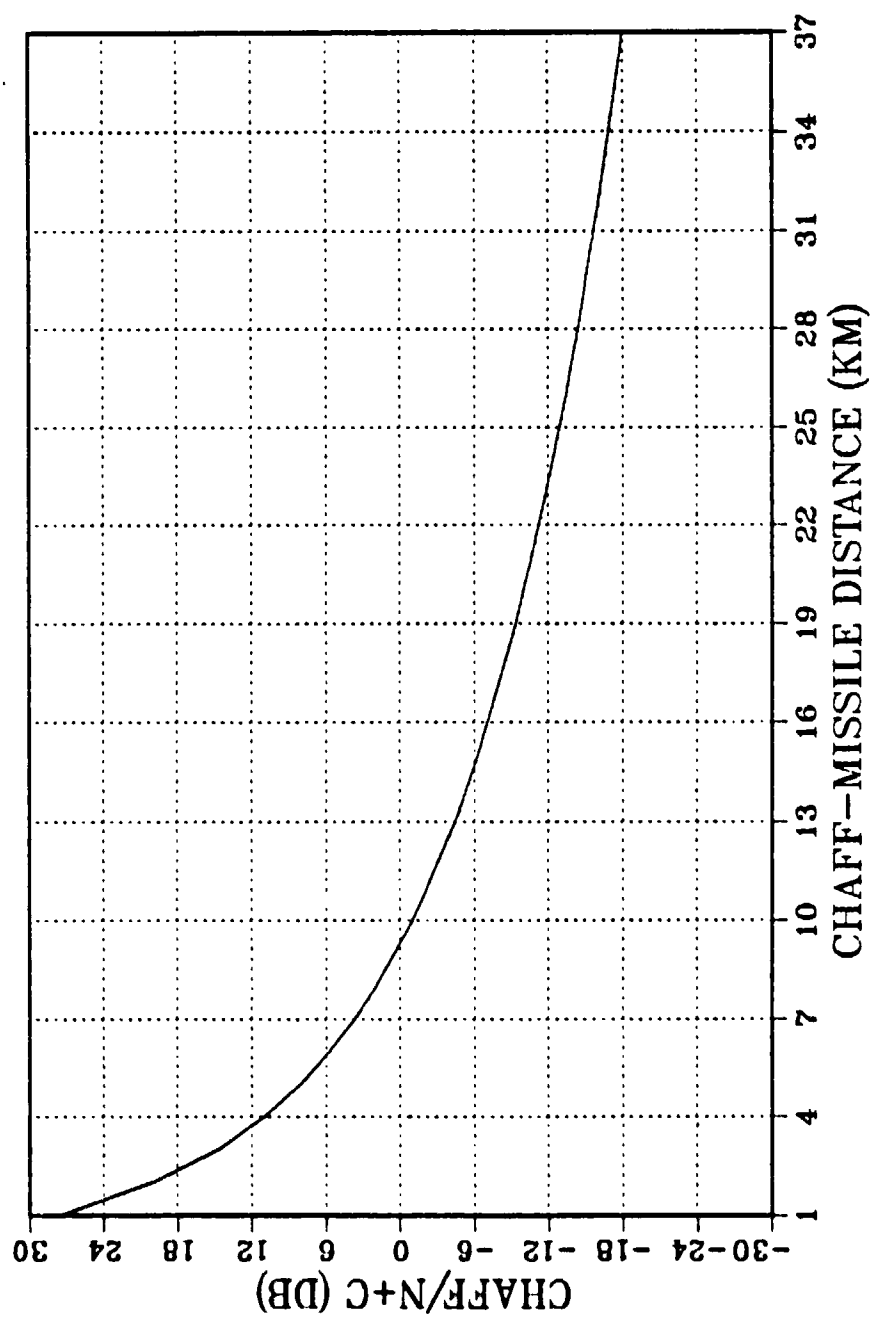


Figure 6.1 Chaff to Noise Plus Clutter Ratio vs. Chaff-Missile Distance (New Chaff)

TABLE III

CHAFF/N+C VALUES VS. CHAFF-MISSILE DISTANCE (MATURE CHAFF)

<u>Distance (km)</u>	<u>Chaff/N+C (db)</u>
1.00	26.178
2.00	17.145
3.00	11.861
4.00	8.113
5.00	5.206
6.00	2.830
7.00	0.822
8.00	-0.918
9.00	-2.453
10.00	-3.825
11.00	-5.067
12.00	-6.201
13.00	-7.244
14.00	-8.209
15.00	-9.108
16.00	-9.949
17.00	-10.739
18.00	-11.484
19.00	-12.188
20.00	-12.856
21.00	-13.492
22.00	-14.098
23.00	-14.677
24.00	-15.232
25.00	-15.764
26.00	-16.275
27.00	-16.766
28.00	-17.240
29.00	-17.697

TABLE IV
CHAFF/N+C VALUES VS. CHAFF-MISSILE DISTANCE (MATURE CHAFF)

<u>Distance (km)</u>	<u>Chaff/N+C (db)</u>
1.00	23.166
2.00	14.134
3.00	8.851
4.00	5.103
5.00	2.195
6.00	-0.180
7.00	-2.189
8.00	-3.928
9.00	-5.463
10.00	-6.836
11.00	-8.077
12.00	-9.211
13.00	-10.254
14.00	-11.220
15.00	-12.118
16.00	-12.959
17.00	-13.749
18.00	-14.494
19.00	-15.198
20.00	-15.867
21.00	-16.502
22.00	-17.108

MATURE CHAFF

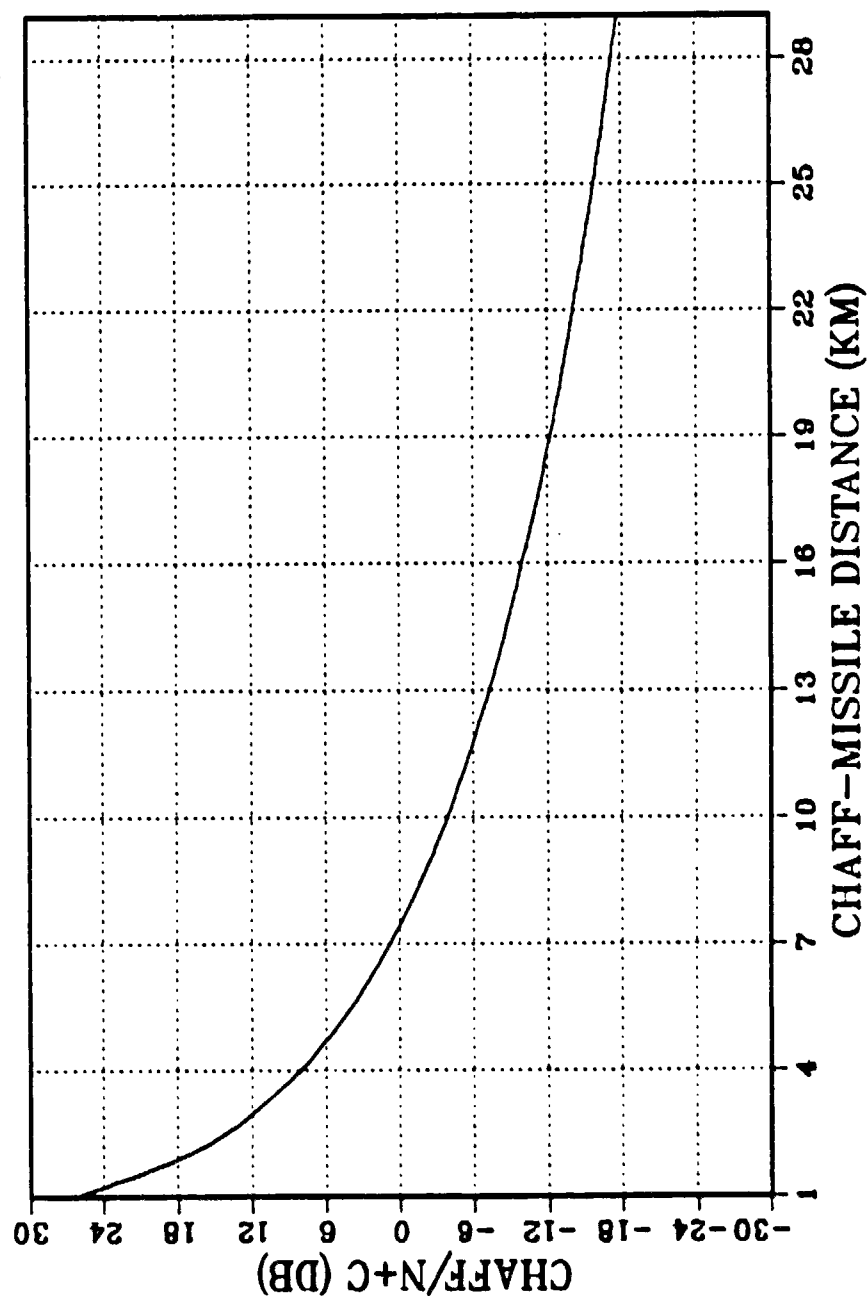


Figure 6.2 Chaff to Noise Plus Clutter Ratio vs. Chaff-Missile Distance (Mature Chaff)

MATURE CHAFF

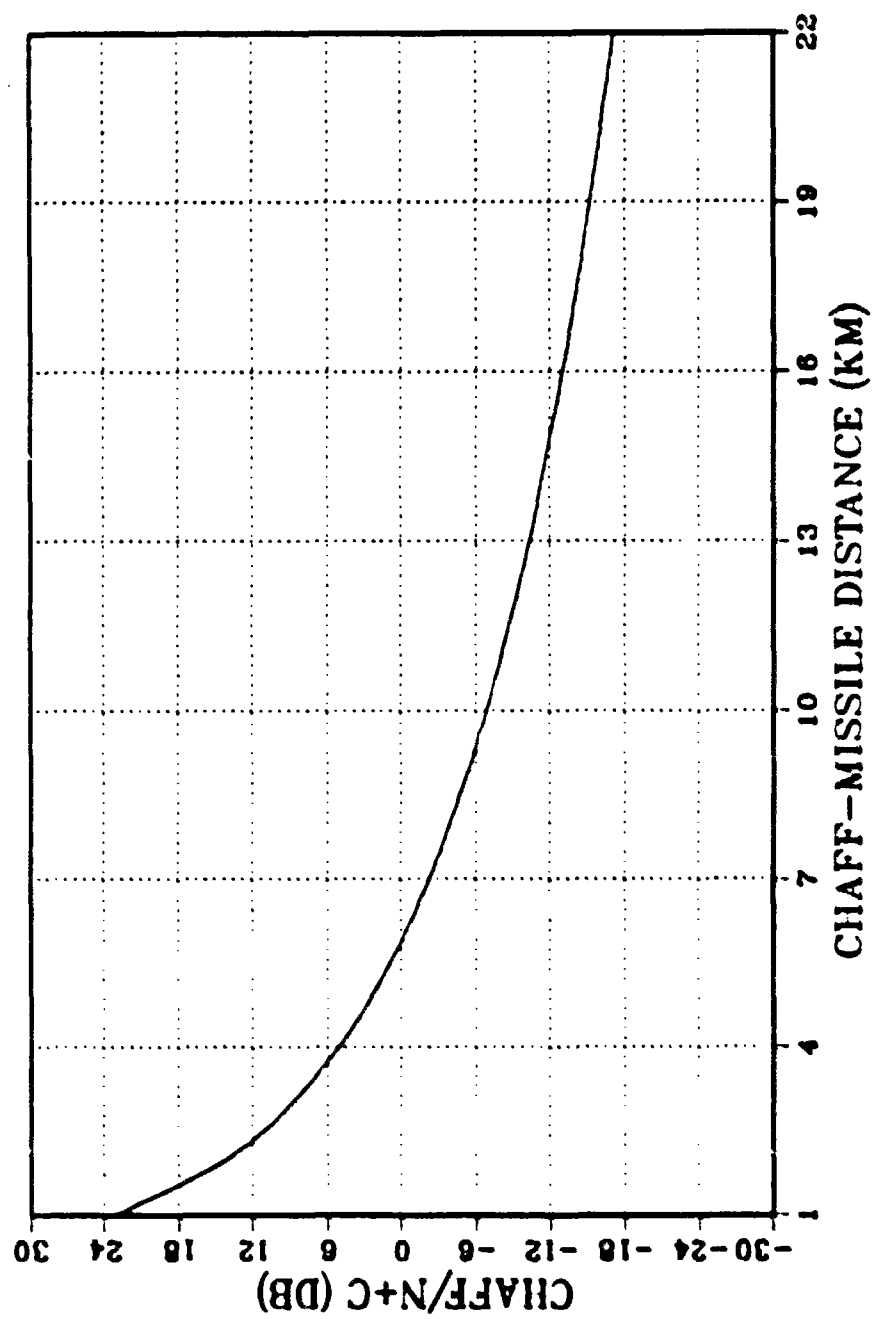


Figure 6.3 Chaff to Noise Plus Clutter Ratio vs. Chaff-Missile Distance (Mature Chaff)

TABLE V

S/N+C VALUES VS. SHIP-MISSILE DISTANCE (NEW CHAFF)

<u>Distance (km)</u>	<u>S/N+C (db)</u>
1.00	4.507
2.00	1.508
3.00	-0.2508
4.00	-1.499
5.00	-2.468
6.00	-3.259
7.00	-3.929
8.00	-4.509
9.00	-5.020
10.00	-5.478
11.00	-5.892
12.00	-6.269
13.00	-6.617
14.00	-6.939
15.00	-7.239
16.00	-7.519
17.00	-7.782
18.00	-8.030
19.00	-8.265
20.00	-8.488
21.00	-8.700
22.00	-8.902
23.00	-9.095
24.00	-9.280
25.00	-9.457
26.00	-9.627
27.00	-9.791
28.00	-9.949
29.00	-10.100
30.00	-10.240
31.00	-10.391
32.00	-10.520
33.00	-10.660
34.00	-10.790
35.00	-10.910
36.00	-11.040
37.00	-11.160

TABLE VI

S/N+C VALUES VS. SHIP-MISSILE DISTANCE (MATURE CHAFF)

<u>Distance (km)</u>	<u>S/N+C (db)</u>
1.00	4.516
2.00	1.510
3.00	-0.250
4.00	-1.500
5.00	-2.467
6.00	-3.260
7.00	-3.929
8.00	-4.509
9.00	-5.020
10.00	-5.478
11.00	-5.892
12.00	-6.269
13.00	-6.617
14.00	-6.939
15.00	-7.238
16.00	-7.519
17.00	-7.782
18.00	-8.030
19.00	-8.265
20.00	-8.488
21.00	-8.700
22.00	-8.902
23.00	-9.095
24.00	-9.280
25.00	-9.457
26.00	-9.627
27.00	-9.791
28.00	-9.949
29.00	-10.102

TABLE VII

S/N+C VALUES VS. SHIP-MISSILE DISTANCE (MATURE CHAFF)

<u>Distance (km)</u>	<u>S/N+C (db)</u>
1.00	4.519
2.00	1.511
3.00	-0.250
4.00	-1.498
5.00	-2.467
6.00	-3.259
7.00	-3.929
8.00	-4.509
9.00	-5.020
10.00	-5.478
11.00	-5.892
12.00	-6.269
13.00	-6.617
14.00	-6.939
15.00	-7.238
16.00	-7.519
17.00	-7.782
18.00	-8.030
19.00	-8.265
20.00	-8.488
21.00	-8.700
22.00	-8.902

NEW CHAFF

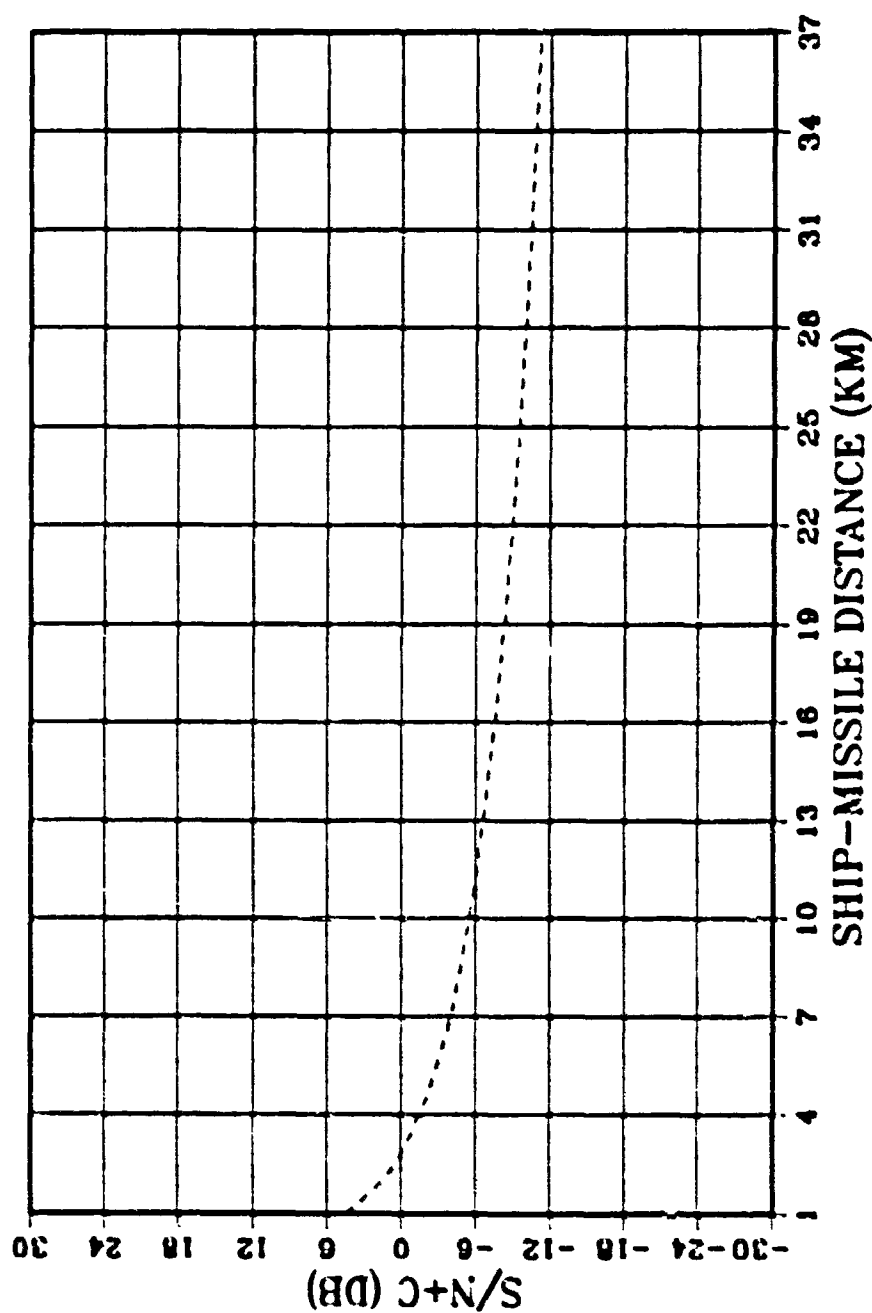


Figure 6.4 Signal to Noise Plus Clutter Ratio vs. Ship-Missile Distance (New Chaff)

MATURE CHAFF

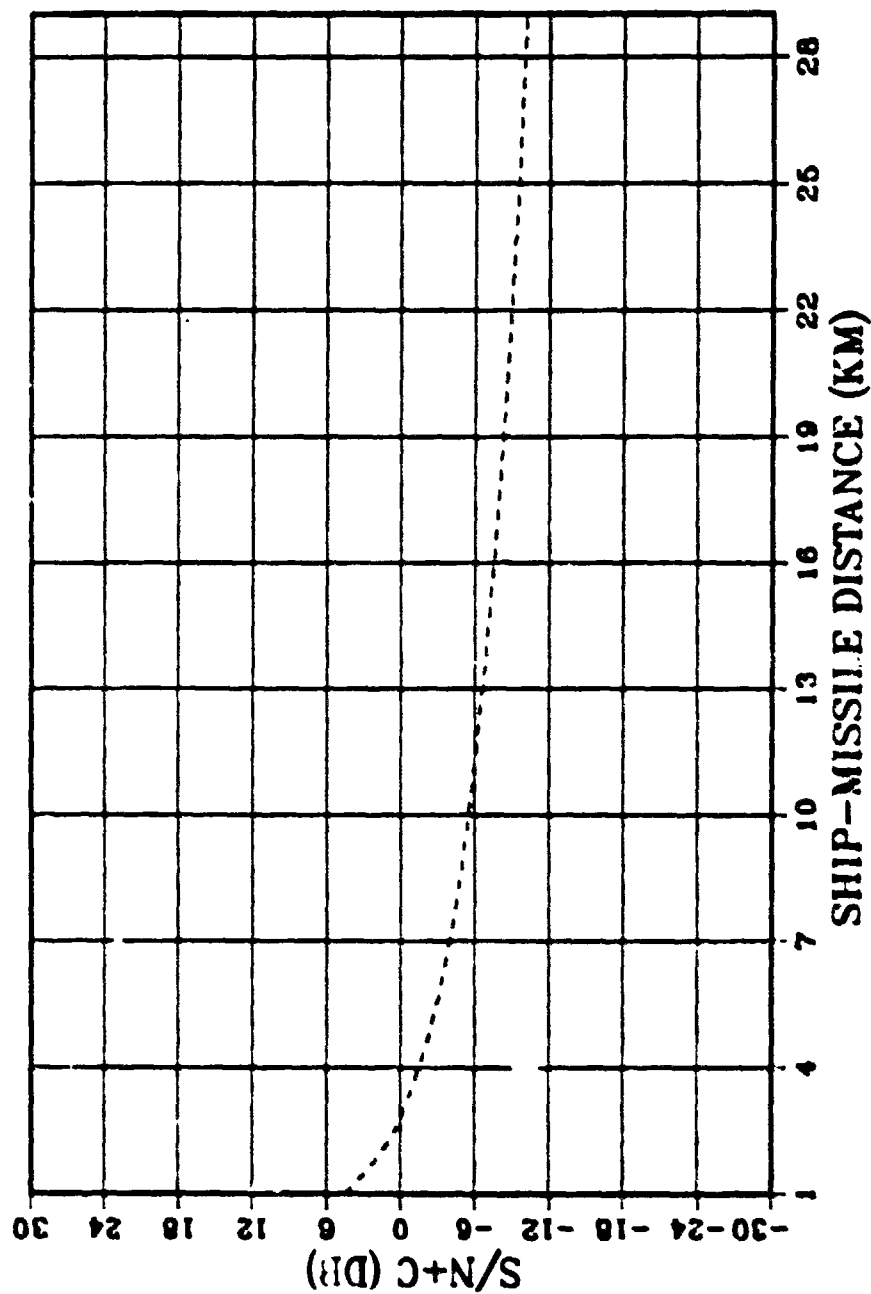


Figure 6.5 Signal to Noise Plus Clutter Ratio vs. Ship-Missile Distance (Mature Chaff)

MATURE CHAFF

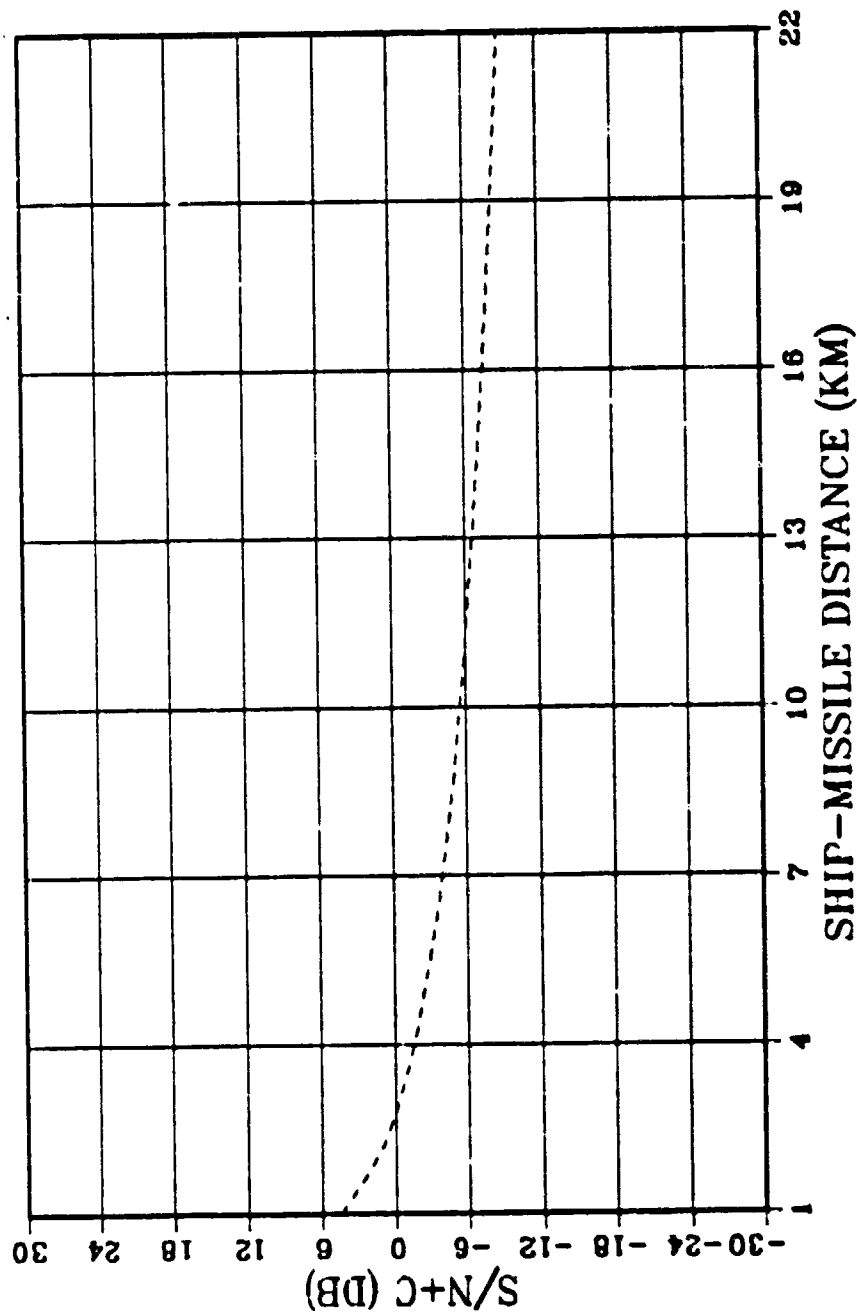


Figure 6.6 Signal to Noise Plus Clutter Ratio vs. Ship-Missile Distance (Mature Chaff)

NEW CHAFF

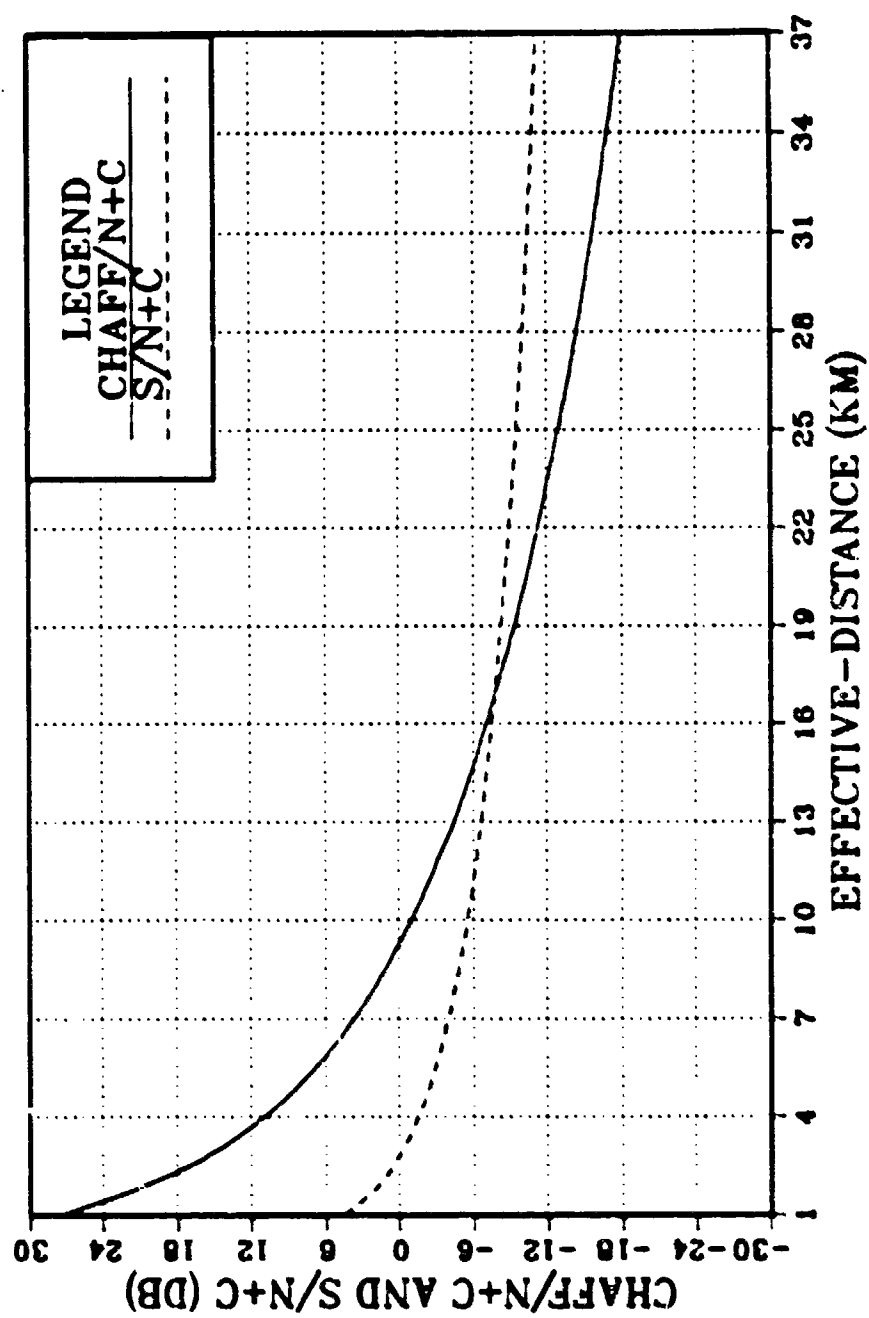


Figure 6.7 Chaff/N+C and S/N+C Comparison vs. Distance (New Chaff)

MATURE CHAFF

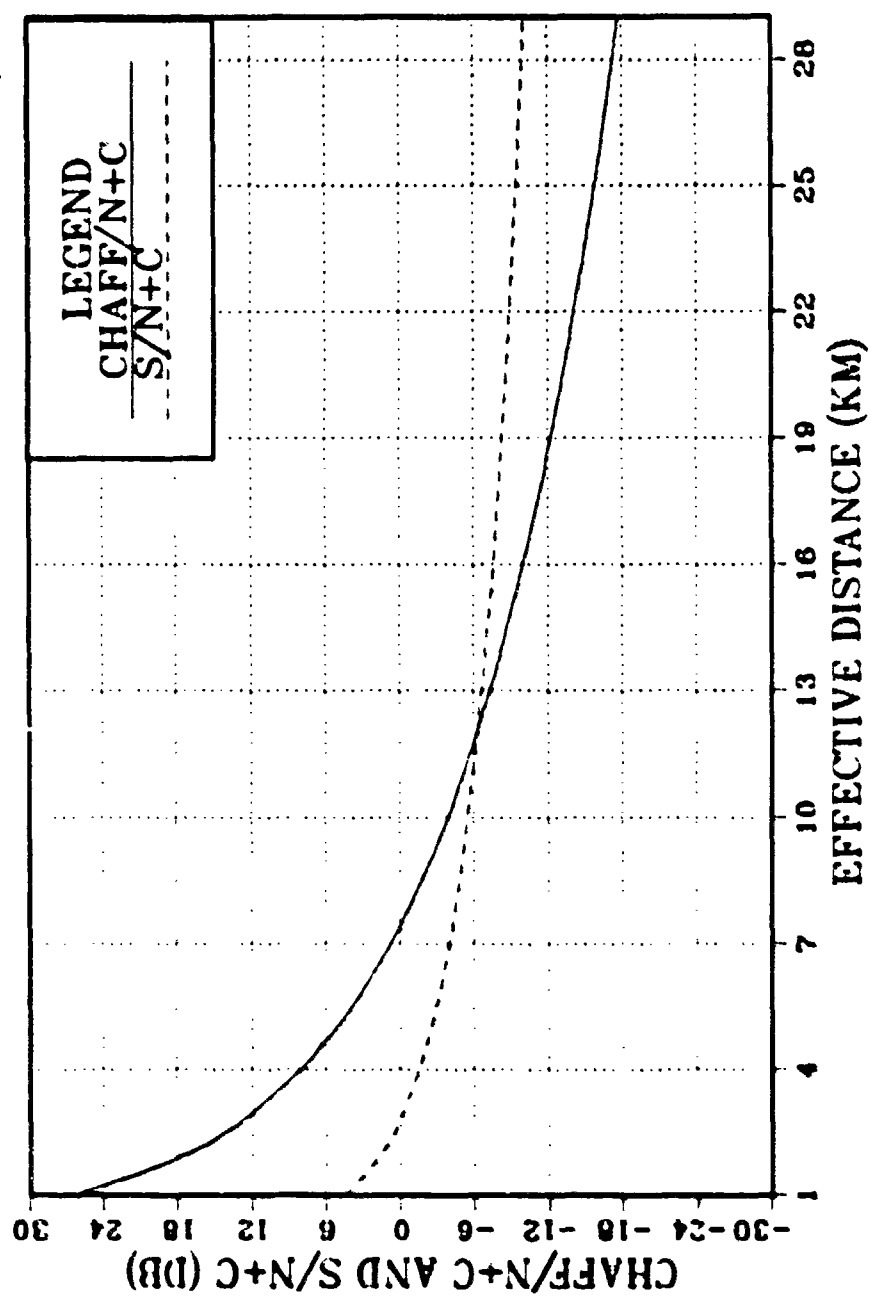


Figure 6.8 Chaff/N+C and S/N+C Comparison vs. Distance (Mature Chaff)

MATURE CHAFF

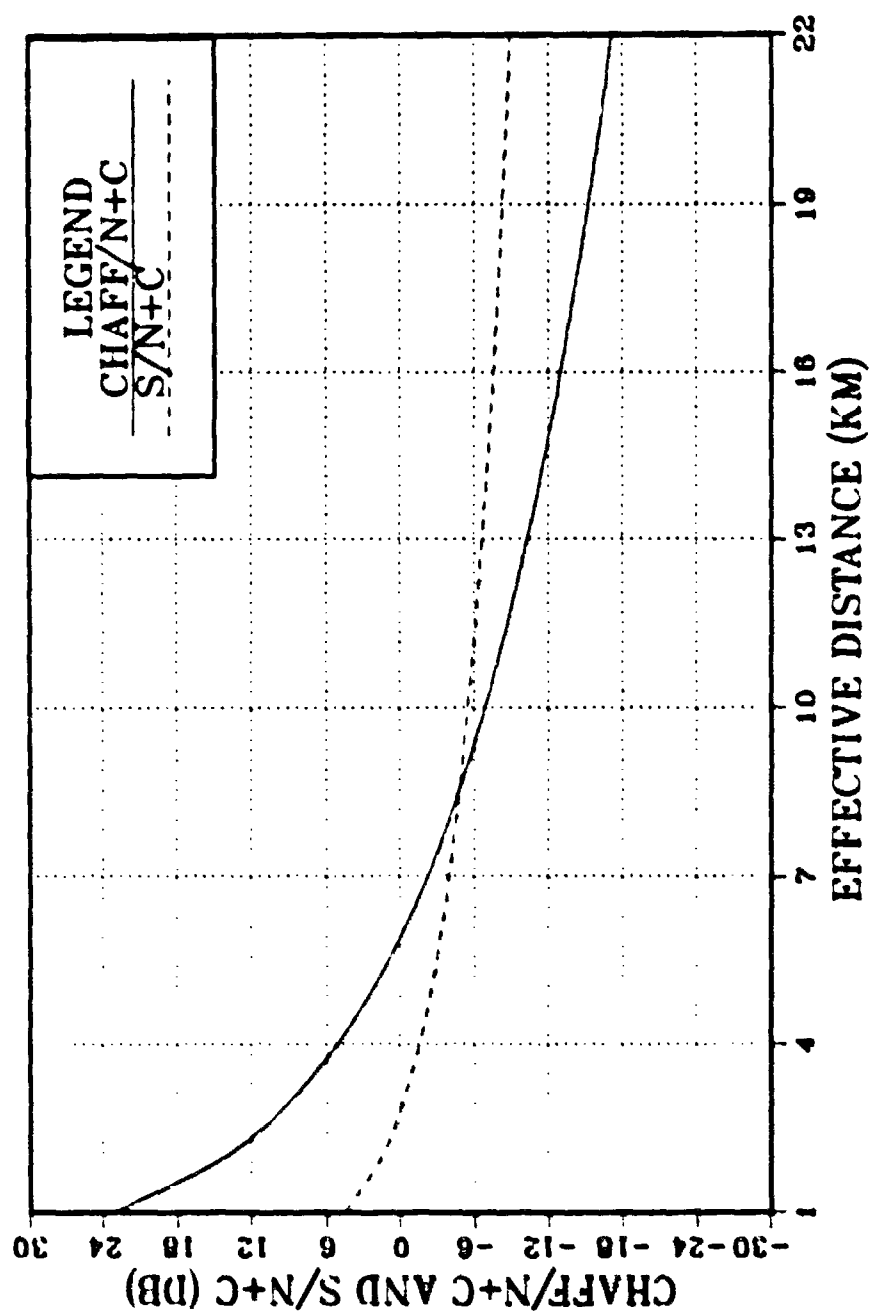


Figure 6.9 Chaff/N+C and S/N+C Comparison vs. Distance (Mature Chaff)

VII. CONCLUSIONS

Maximizing the effectiveness of chaff, in a self-protective role, is one method to increase the survivability of combat ships.

This thesis has produced a simulation that allows the user to study how the parameters induce the optimum confusion.

The most dominant factor in chaff effectiveness is the radar cross section of the chaff compared to the ship at the time when ship and chaff are in the same resolution cell.

The simulation created in Section VI utilizes this factor and this constraint increases chaff effectiveness.

In Figure 6.1 we see the decreasing effectiveness of chaff of a given size chaff cloud with increasing range. This is for the case of the chaff cloud immediately after the chaff burst. Figures 6.2 and 6.3 display the effectiveness of chaff as a function of range for a mature chaff cloud. That is, one that has been in existence for several minutes. Figure 6.3 is for a larger radar cross section chaff cloud. Figure 6.4 displays essentially the signal to noise plus chaff ratio as a function of range for a given radar cross section of ship. In the examples shown, the effectiveness of the chaff would be very good in

decoying a missile from the ship in that the signal to chaff ratio is less than one throughout the flight until approximately 3 kilometers of range. Figure 6.5 is similar to 6.4 only it now considers a mature chaff cloud as opposed to a new chaff cloud. Figure 6.6 is similar to Figure 6.5 only it involves a larger chaff cloud radar cross section. Figure 6.7 is a composite plot of the chaff to noise plus signal to noise ratio.

This is a composite figure showing the effectiveness of the chaff to clutter ratio and signal to clutter ratio as a function of the range. The critical point to observe is when the signal to clutter ratio intersects the chaff to clutter ratio. One may then become concerned regarding the missile radar swinging to track the signal as opposed to the chaff.

In this figure, it indicates that the critical range is at approximately 16 kilometers. In Figure 6.8 we have a similar plot only here showing a mature chaff cloud. The critical range occurs at approximately 12 kilometers. In Figure 6.9 we have again the comparison of signal and chaff clutter ratios. Here the critical range in relative ratios occurs at approximately 9 kilometers. These figures and the simulations which produce them give considerable insight into the effectiveness of the chaff defense against the ASCM.

From such plots as these one can conclude such things as whether or not multiple chaff bursts are necessary to increase the chaff radar cross-section or whether a different angle of aspect between the ship and incoming missile is necessary to reduce the ships radar cross section to thereby increase the chaff's effectiveness over the ship's radar cross section. Out of such simulations as these, one concludes the timeliness of very rapid reaction in terms of chaff deployment. That is, the sooner one can obtain a mature cloud larger than the ship, the better.

APPENDIX

CONICAL SCAN MODULATION FUNCTION

In this appendix an appropriate expression for $m(t)$ based on the assumptions (Section V) is obtained.

Let $z_m(t)$ and $z(t)$ denote the received complex envelope signals with and without conical-scan modulation, respectively. Then the signal without modulation is the sum of echoes from K dipoles in the range cell [Ref. 4].

$$z(t) = \sum_{k=1}^K a_k \exp[2\pi f_k t + r_k]$$

So for K th dipole the parameters a_k , r_k , and f_k depend on the range and radial velocity of dipole.

An expression can be generated to modify the above expression to include modulation functions $m_k(t)$ which account for the varying strengths of echoes from the dipoles due to changing beam position [Ref. 4]:

$$z_m(t) = \sum_{k=1}^K m_k(t) a_k \exp[jd_k] \quad (A-1)$$

where:

$$d_K = 2nf_K t + r_K$$

If the assumptions (Section V) are true and the dipoles are not widely dispersed then the modulation functions $m_K(t)$ will be approximately equal to a common modulation function $m(t)$.

So (A-1) simplified to:

$$z_m(t) = m(t) \sum_{K=1}^K a_K \exp[jd_K] = m(t) z(t) = m(t) a(t) \exp[jd(t)] \quad (A-2)$$

From equation (A-2) $z_m(t)$ is equal to $z(t)$ multiplied by a real-valued modulation function $m(t)$ which is periodic at the scan frequency. Thus the amplitude of $z_m(t)$ given by $a_m(t) = m(t)a(t)$ where $a(t)$ is the amplitude of $z(t)$. Because $m(t)$ is periodic it can be written as Fourier series with scan frequency f_s [Ref. 4]:

$$m(t) = M_0 + \sum_{K=1}^K M_K \cos(2nKf_s t + \phi_K) \quad (A-3)$$

Suppose $C_a(t)$ and $C_{am}(t)$ denote the timer-average autocovariance functions of $a(t)$ and $a_m(t)$ respectively, then assuming that $C_{am}(t)$ goes to zero t goes to infinity one may write the following:

$$C a_m(t) = \sum_{K=1}^K (M_K^2/2) \cos(2n f_s t) (\bar{a})^2 \quad (A-4)$$

$$\bar{a}_m = M_0 \bar{a} \quad (A-5)$$

where:

\bar{a}_m, \bar{a} : Time average of $a(t)$ and $a(t)$

So with a good approximation take $M_n=0$ for $n \geq 2$ in (A-3) and (A-4). Thus $m(t)$ may be written as:

$$m(t) = M_0 + M_1 \cos(2n f_s t + a_1) \quad (A-6)$$

There is one useful relationship between M_0 and M_1 . From (A-4) and (A-6) M_1 is related to the amplitude of the cosine wave of $C a_m(t)$ with $M_1^2 (\bar{a})^2 / 2 = A$. Now when this result is combined with the (A-5) we find that $M_1 = B M_0$ where:

$$B = (2A/\bar{a}_m)^{1/2}$$

Since both A and \bar{a}_m are estimated using recorded data then B may be estimated.

So we have found that the modulation function may be approximated by the expression of the form:

$$m(t) = M_0 + B M_0 \cos(2n f_s t + a_1)$$

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